

# Espacio Micus

arte contemporáneo

**SIRAJ SAXENA**

**BEYOND WORDS**  
an experience with colours



Inauguración sábado 15 de diciembre desde las 17 h a las 21 h  
Exposición desde el 15 de diciembre hasta abril 2013



## Beyond Words

I am here with you to read a letter I just sent to my friend Siraj.

Dear Siraj,

Katia has asked me to say something, some words, explain something about you.

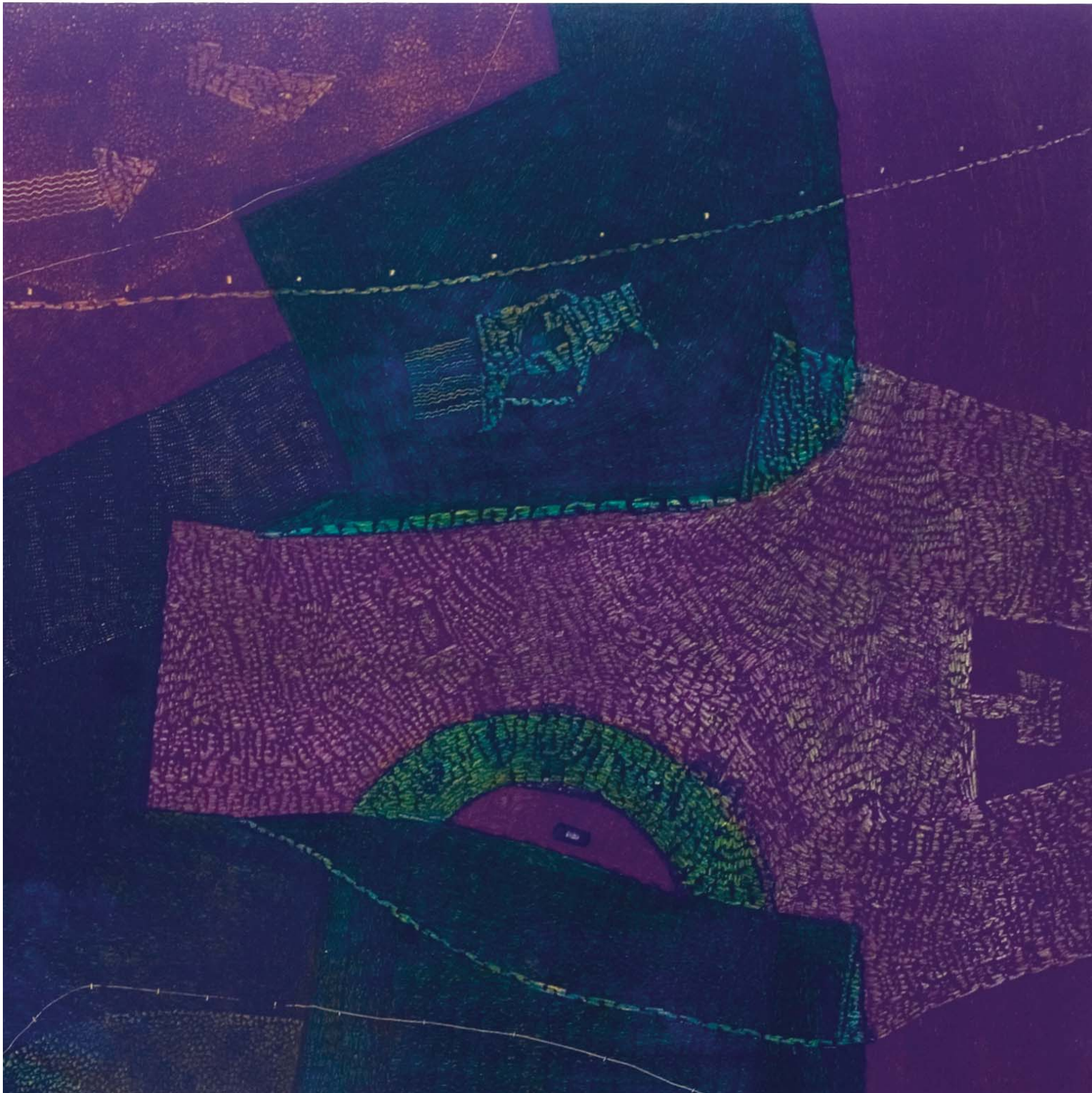
Despite the geographical distance, you are very present, you are here with us. You cannot imagine how lucky you are, Micus Space is sublime, quiet, generous and full of light. The daughter of this great artist (Eduard Micus) has keep on with his legacy while still giving life and sowing seeds of exquisite sensitivity.

Siraj, your work is so familiar to me that I perceive it as a legacy of the feeling and not of the knowledge, your prints, engravings, asymmetries, are fragments of the landscape of memory, your inner memory. This immense fragmentation, has no limits and this impossible totality, it is still quiet and serene. You perceive it and be sure that it dissipates any illusion. It is as if I had found "the promised land", the woman.

Here's a big hug, Ibiza

**Toni**

15th December 2012



150" x 72" acrylic on canvas

2012

Me dirijo a ustedes con una carta que acabo de mandar a mi amigo Siraj.

Querido Siraj,

Katia me ha pedido que dijera algo, unas palabras, explicar algo sobre tí.

A pesar de la distancia geográfica, estas muy presente, estás aquí entre nosotros. No puedes imaginarte lo afortunado que eres, el Espacio Micus, es sublime, silencioso, generoso y lleno de luz. La hija de este gran maestro (Eduard Micus) recoge sus frutos y al mismo tiempo sigue dando vida sembrando otras semillas de exquisita sensibilidad.

Siraj, tu obra me resulta tan familiar que la percibo como un legado del sentimiento y no del conocimiento, tus huellas, incisiones, asimetrías, son fragmentos del paisaje de la memoria, de tu memoria que llevas dentro. Esta fragmentación inmensa, no tiene límites y esta totalidad imposible, que lo es, no deja de ser silenciosa y serena; la percibes y no dudas que disipan cualquier espejismo, es como si hubiera encontrado "la tierra prometida", la mujer.

Recibe un fuerte abrazo, Ibiza

Toni

15 diciembre 2012

1757/2819



Siraj Saxena with Ms. Katin & Mr. Toni Esteve

## Siraj Saxena

Born : 30 january, 1974 (Mhow) M.P., India  
(B.F.A.) 1996, Govt. Institute of Fine Arts, Indore.

### Solo Exhibitions

Taj Arts Gallery, Indore 1993, Deolalikar Art Gallery, Indore 1995, "Khajuraho through the eyes of Siraj" Deolalikar Art Gallery, Indore 1996, "Homage to unknown sculptor of Khajuraho" Triveni Art Gallery, New Delhi 2002, "Kavita-Shilpa" An exhibition of Pottery at India International Centre, New Delhi 2002, Homage to unknown Sculptor of Khajuraho, Studio-55, New Delhi 2002, Homage to unknown Sculptor of Khajuraho, Indusind Bank's art Gallery, Chandigarh, 2004, "The Expanse of Depths" MEC Art Gallery, New Delhi, 2005, "The Expanse of Depths" The Contemporary Art Gallery, Ahmedabad, 2005, Aspect of Art London 2006, "Approximations" Polka Art Gallery New Delhi 2006, "Rejoicing in the visual" Time & Space Art Gallery, Bangalore 2006, "Nishshabda" Reflections Art Gallery, Indore 2007, "Nishshabda" anant art gallery, kolkata 2008, "Ayonijaa" the art shop kathmandu, Nepal 2008, VARNANAM David hall fort cochi kerala 2010, 'Visible Invisible' Gallery art konsult, New Delhi 2011, "Touch and shadow" yingge ceramics museum Taiwan 2011, "BEYOND WORDS" ABA art contemporani Spain 2012, "Beyond words" ART en Hotel de la missio Spain 2012, "Beyond the words" Espacio micus contemporary arts Ibiza Spain 2013.

**Participated in more than 90 group exhibitions in India and abroad.**

### Art Camps, Workshops and Residency programs

The International Workshop of Ceramic Art in Tokoname Japan 1997 "Narmada to Mahavalley" an installation on River Mahavalley, Kendy, Srilanka, 2003, Indian Artist Camp at Bali Indonesia, Artist in residence at International ceramics research and residency centre Yingge ceramics museum Yingge Taiwan 2011.

### Scholarship

Junior Scholarship by HRD Ministry Government of India 1998-2000.

### Collections

Ministry of external affairs govt. of India, Roopankar, Bharat Bhawan Bhopal, M.E. C. Art Gallery, New Delhi, Asian Academy of Film & Television, Noida, Lal Bagh Indore, S.C.Z.C.C. Nagpur, IWCAT Tokoname Japan, Gallery Kyo-E-Gama Tokoname Japan, Gangcey Srilanka, Gandhi Peace Foundation New Delhi, CESC Madurai, Pashupati Acrylon Ltd. New Delhi, Rath Super Steel Ltd, New Delhi, Som Dutt Builders Ltd., New Delhi, Press trust of India new delhi, max India new delhi and many private collections in Thailand, Australia, France, Finland, U.A.E., Germany, New Zealand, Singapore, America, U.K., Belgium, Netherlands, U.S.A. Yingge ceramic museum Taiwan, Spain Etc.

### Auction

"India on Canvas" organized by Khushi New Delhi 2006.

"Art for Freedom" organized by Tehlka, London 2007.

### Studio :

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## UN TALENTO INMENSO, DOS EXPOSICIONES, UNA GRAN EXPERIENCIA

La pasada primavera todos los amantes del buen arte de esta isla mediterránea, Mallorca (Islas Baleares, Spain) tuvimos el placer de conocer y admirar por primera vez la obra de Siraj Saxena. Para el equipo de ABA Art fue un gran honor exponer por primera vez en Europa las obras de Siraj Saxena. Para ello decidimos organizar dos exposiciones simultáneas de Siraj Saxena en dos salas de exposiciones emblemáticas de la ciudad: ABA Art y CONVENT DE LA MISSIÓ. Bajo el título "Beyond words. An Experience with colours", se expusieron un gran número de pinturas sobre lienzo y sobre papel, además de collages con textiles y piezas cerámicas.

Como organizadoras de exposiciones y gestoras de arte, es muy importante acercarse profundamente a las obras que deseas dar a conocer al público. No obstante lo más interesante es comprobar que detrás de las obras hay una gran persona, llena de energía, ilusión, entusiasmo y creatividad. Siraj viajó por primera vez a nuestro país. Durante su estancia pudimos compartir su mirada atenta al paisaje mediterráneo, al campo, al mar, las montañas. Paseamos juntos por el centro histórico para que conociera nuestra arquitectura, plazas y calles. Fue emocionante verle tan atento, tomando notas y ampliando su memoria visual. Mallorca ha sido desde hace siglos un lugar de acogida de artistas del mundo entero. Dicen que la luz de esta isla es única.

Acompañamos a Siraj a descubrir el taller del artista Joan Miró, un artista catalán y universal que se instaló y trabajó en Mallorca durante sus últimos 30 años de vida. Al igual que Joan Miró para Siraj, la naturaleza, las constelaciones y la mujer son temas primordiales en su obra. Las capas de color y las figuras de Siraj evocan poesía, alma y pasión por la existencia y por lo desconocido.

Todos los medios de comunicación dedicaron interesantes artículos sobre las exposiciones de Siraj. Destacamos algunos titulares:

- "Rastro en el paisaje": (...) el efecto es impecable, el dibujo se vuelve cosmos y panorama (...) una invocación al paso del tiempo. Un gran trabajo de intervención discreta, contenida y sutil (...) un circuito de anotaciones rítmicas perfectamente combinadas, en una superposición de capas de pintura que también parecen cosidas.

- "Tejer desde la pintura": (...) sus obras pueden ser poemas visuales o el mismo retrato de un fragmento de tejido (...) en sus cuadros está contenida la placidez calma de un paisaje infinito.

- "Las pinturas cosidas de Siraj Saxena en ABA Art": en la obra de Siraj Saxena conviven en armonía lo ancestral y lo contemporáneo (...) para el artista la madre-naturaleza queda representada en su sugerente pintura a partir de las formas del cuerpo femenino.

Deseamos que la obra de Siraj siga emocionándonos para siempre!

**Alejandra Bordoy & Maribel Bordoy**  
(Directoras de ABA ART, Mallorca, Spain)

## AN IMMENSE TALENT, TWO EXHIBITIONS, A GREAT EXPERIENCE

Last spring all lovers of good art of the Mediterranean island, Mallorca (Balearic Islands, Spain) had the pleasure to know and admire for the first time the work of Siraj Saxena. For ABA Art team was a great honor to exhibit for the first time in Europe the works of Siraj Saxena. To do this we decided to organize two simultaneous exhibitions of Siraj Saxena in two of the flagship galleries in the city: ABA Art and Convent de la Missió. Under the title "Beyond words. An Experience with colors", we exhibited a large number of paintings on canvas and paper, as well as textile collages and ceramic pieces.

As organizers of exhibitions and art managers, it is very important to approach deeply the works we desire to present to the public. But the most interesting thing is to see that behind the works there is a great person, full of energy, excitement, enthusiasm and creativity. Siraj traveled for the first time to our country. During his stay we shared his gaze to the Mediterranean landscape, the countryside, the sea, the mountains. We walked together through the historic center known for its magnificent architecture, squares and narrow streets. It was exciting to see him so attentive, taking notes and expanding his visual memory. Mallorca has been during centuries a place of residence of artists worldwide. They say that in light of this island is unique.

We accompanied Siraj to discover the artist's Joan Miró studio, a Catalan and universal artist that settled and worked in Mallorca during his last 30 years. Like Joan Miró, to Siraj, nature, constellations and women are major themes in his work. The layers of color and Siraj figures evoke poetry, soul and passion for the existence and the unknown.

All media published interesting articles about both exhibitions of Siraj. We here highlight some headlines:

- "Trail in the landscape" (...) the effect is impeccable, the cosmos becomes drawing and panorama (...) invocation over the passage of time. Great job of discreet intervention, restrained and subtle (...) a circuit of rhythmic notations perfectly combined in a superposition of layers of paint that also seem sewn.

- "Knitting from painting": (...) his works can be visual poems or the same picture of a piece of fabric (...) in his paintings is contained the calm serenity of an infinite landscape.

- "The paintings "sewn" from Siraj Saxena in ABA Art": in the work of Siraj Saxena lives in harmony the ancestral and the contemporary (...) for the artist, mother-nature is represented in its evocative painting through female body forms.

We hope that the works of Siraj Saxena will thrill us forever!

**Alejandra Bordoy & Maribel Bordoy**  
(ABA ART Directors, Mallorca, Spain)

### Beyond words

It is always difficult, if not at some level altogether impossible, to describe in words what happens in the specific visual language of colours, shapes and shades, vibrations and rhythms in works of art. The verbal can aspire to but hardly ever attain the condition of the visual. Visual meanings can not be wholly contained nor fully described in and as verbal meanings. And yet one does talk about art in words which, when used with sensitivity and imagination, rigour and precision could, approximate the rich complex of meanings works of art embody and enact.

Siraj Saxena's current art makes one wonder whether doing something in art also amounts to saying something in art. Taking to the visual, in any case, implies that one has consciously decided to express oneself, one's sense of reality, one's vision and anxieties in visual language. In many ways it also means that one has chosen to be verbally reluctant, to explore those areas of reality and imagination which are primarily visual and not amenable to verbal expression. A work of art attains its own reality and, as is the case in Siraj's works, it need not reflect or meditate on given reality. In other words, this is art saying nothing more than itself. It certainly adds to reality but is averse to making you view it in any particular way. Its dynamics consist in making you realize, once in a while, that the visual has primacy, that without saying anything the visual acts on your imagination freely and evocatively.

There are colours, divisions of spaces, shadows and shapes. At times one feels as if the colours are excavating themselves, they are scratching themselves to discover some hidden reality. As if reality is buried under layers of colours, darkly restless to manifest itself. The colours are engaged in a silent conversation - they seem to be celebrating silently the irrepressible fact of their existence, their quiet but unmistakable being. Siraj's works are not burdened by overt meanings and clear statement: on the other hand, they are under the grateful shadow of their own mystery. They discover nothing else except themselves and yet they make us notice something we have not come across before. They don't state, they act. Art not as statement, but as action. Not social action but visual action. Action in the realm of imagination.

At one level these works could be seen as landscapes: fields, vast green stretches, hills etc. But the moments you say this you realize that you are reducing the rich compositional vibrancy to the conventional intimations, simplifying the complex intonations. And thereby you come to the overwhelming question: Why can't art be itself? Why should art not be allowed to speak, sing and celebrate, explore and manifest itself? Why should art not be reality-in-itself rather depending upon similitude with reality or a reflection of it?

There are no easy answers. Siraj Saxena's art is not seeking answers to such anxieties. But it is certainly poised to reveal a personal approach growing into an intense vision, a passionate engagement with the visual to reach out to inarticulate areas of experience.

Here is art beyond words, it is without words since it is on the verge of articulation. It is colourful silence. It is almost waiting breathlessly for the original sounds to recur.

**Ashok Vajpeyi**  
Poet - Critic  
New Delhi

*14: Cms*

Espacio Eduard Micus  
arte contemporáneo

Abierto todos los domingos de 11 a 14 h o por cita telefónica (+34) 971 19 19 23  
Ibiza - Carretera Jesús-Cala Llonga, Km. 3 a la izquierda, después de 200 m a la derecha



Beyond Word 1

36" x 48" acrylic on vasali handmade paper

2012



Beyond Word 2

36" x 48" acrylic on vasali handmade paper

2012



Beyond Word 3

36" x 48" acrylic on vasali handmade paper

2012



Beyond Word 4

36" x 48" acrylic on vasali handmade paper

2012



Beyond Word 5

36" x 48" acrylic on vasali handmade paper

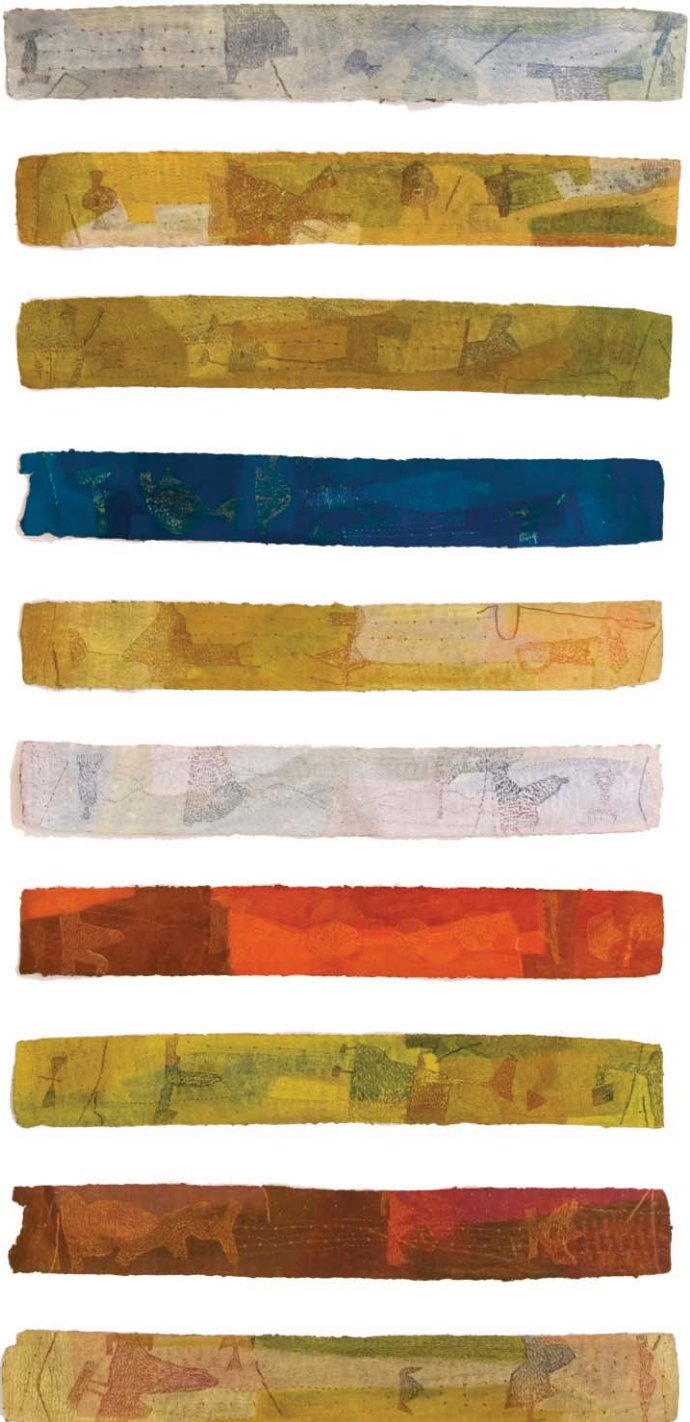
2012



Beyond Word 6

64" x 24" acrylic on vasali handmade paper

2012



Beyond Word 8

9.5" x 69" (each) acrylic and oil on vasali handmade paper

2012



Beyond Word 9

52" x 17" (each) acrylic on vasalli handmade paper

2012



Beyond Word 7

60" x 72" acrylic on canvas

2012



9.5" x 69" (each) acrylic and oil on vasalli handmade paper

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