



THE HOMECOMING

Artist **Ranjani Shettar** has exhibited all over America. This month, with a show in Delhi, she brings her sculptures home

INDIA CALLING

Having spent the last couple of years showing at organisations stateside, like the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and Boston's Institute of Contemporary Art, Bangalore-born sculptor Ranjani Shettar returns to India this month with a show at the Talwar Gallery in Delhi. Deepak Talwar,

founder of the gallery's headquarters in New York, has represented Shettar since 2004, when he hosted her first solo exhibition, titled 'Indian Spring'. It featured two sculptures, both evocative of Indian landscapes. One of these, *In Bloom*, is a network of fuchsia-painted wooden beads arranged like garlands, inspired by

bougainvillea. A variation can be found in *Lagoon*, featured in her current show, which builds on the large-scale installations for which she has come to be known.

NEW DESIGNS

Materiality is a dominant theme in Shettar's work. Her new works depict an interest in teak: *Twist*, shaped like a

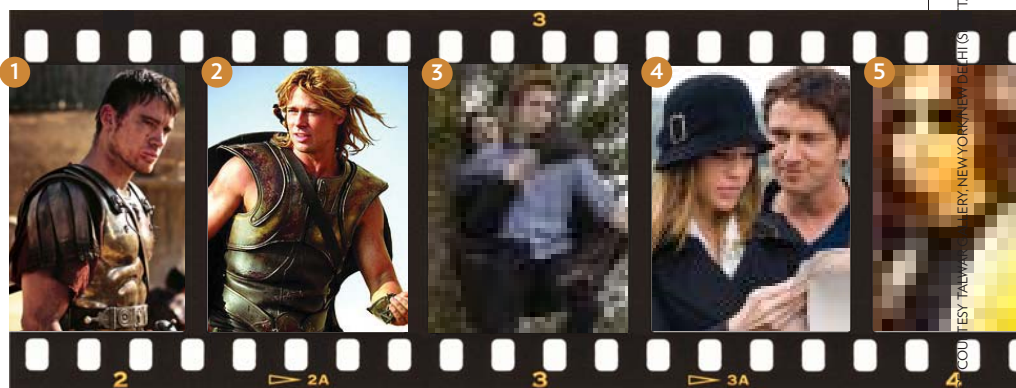
long baton, has been carved to reveal an elegant exterior; *Kinetics* uses the material in a less imposing fashion, lightly supporting a wrought-iron spherical frame that balances delicately, emphasising a perfect circumference.

DEFYING DEFINITION

The artist is known for her use of organic materials reflective of her local environment, such as tamarind kernel and beeswax. Though happy to have her work described as 'Indian', she is wary of being defined by her nationality. "When exhibiting in group shows, my art must resonate with the other works on display—I don't believe in putting artists together just because they are from India," she says. Of course, with a recent exhibition at the Hermès Foundation, Singapore and a solo show being planned in Australia, it doesn't seem like Shettar is tied down by any such constraints. —Allie Biswas ■

LIGHTS, CAMERA, OUCH!

Some movie stars really suffer for their art



1. CHANNING TATUM, THE EAGLE: It was so cold during fight scenes that crew members had to pour hot water down the actors' wetsuits, until Tatum got a crotchful of scalding water straight from the kettle.
2. BRAD PITT, TROY: Pitt

played Greek warrior Achilles—and tore his Achilles tendon while jumping off a ship.
3. ROBERT PATTINSON, TWILIGHT: R-Patz was left red-cheeked when he lifted co-star Kristen Stewart and tore a muscle in his bum.

But he was soon back in good shape for, appropriately, *New Moon*.
4. HILARY SWANK, P.S. I LOVE YOU: During a dance scene, Gerard Butler playfully stretched his braces, causing one of the clips to fly off and hit Swank in the forehead.

Almost as eye-watering as the reviews.
5. VAL KILMER, THE DOORS: As rocker Jim Morrison, Kilmer threw himself into a stage dive. Except that the crew forgot to catch him and he broke his arm. —Mark Eccleston and Scarlett Russell