

Last Glass of Cola

Ragini Chawla

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161 Broad Street

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Last Glass of Cola
(09 February 2023)

The tables are (all) set.

In the fore we see Five sitting across a round table, pink satin cloth lain over the table top.

Flowers decorate the centre of the table and half eaten plates of food decorate the edges of the table.

In the background shehnais are playing and a stage is seen on which situated is a couple. Every passing minute sees a group of different people joining the couple and smile for memorabilia. Following every click, pairs of legs exit the stage and a new set of them enter.

They're (lightly) talking to pass time, and intently following food with their eyes.

"The ones on the stage already have enough attention!"

We'll speak about the Five on the table today.

Their faces look content,

presumably from all that was on the plate

and a lingering desire for what remains.

Mid chatter, their necks turn as a sixth enters the scene. Their faces change and the *deep desire of quenching* marks them all.

The sixth is holding a tray adjacent to their shoulder, garnering all attention on THAT

A
glistening
glass
of cola.

With each step the sixth takes, expressions change and some hands move while some don't.

*One's too hesitant to even move their fingers
One's eyes are following the glass intently.
One's gaze is diverted away from the glass
One's hand intuitively extends to pick the glass,*

but the hand

drops

One takes the first sip.

It's the last glass of cola, lights shut. Everyone, including the people on the stage in the background go home now. (All go home)

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I am grateful for all the shows and works I have been able to see by my peers and artists in Glasgow in the past few years which have inspired and informed me. And I am eternally grateful to many friends who got married in the past year, and served as utmost inspiration for this show.

Ragini Chawla (b. Delhi) is based in Glasgow. She studied at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara (2018) and the Glasgow School of Art (2020), where she was awarded an honorary graduate fellowship by Glasgow Sculpture Studios. She has recently exhibited at the Goethe-Institut, Glasgow (2022), The Flying Goat, Goa (2022) and Kiosk (2023).

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