

The exhibit displays a number of pictures from the “Art That People Step On” collection developed by Mandayam Osuri Thirunarayanan (M.O. Thirunarayanan) was born in Madras, India. “Thiru”, as his friends and colleagues call him, is a naturalized citizen of the United States.

Like most people, Thiru has walked a few thousand miles until this point in time in his life. Also like most people, he never used to pay attention to patterns of art that he used to step on or walk over.

At the end of the year 2016, Thiru suddenly started noticing patterns in spills, spatter, splatter, splashes and weathered or eroded portions of sidewalks, paved or semi-paved open spaces between buildings and other places exposed to the elements.

Using the camera in his smart phone, Thiru started taking pictures of the spills, stains, and other patterns formed by weathering. To his untrained eyes, some of the patterns looked like works of art. Soon Thiru started noticing more and more ‘works of art’ as he walked on paved spaces.

Thiru calls his collection of pictures by various names, which are also Twitter hashtags that he either created or compiled, such as “Art That People Step On,” “Art That People Walk Over,” “Art That We Step On,” “Art That We Walk Over,” “Art in Unexpected Everyday Places,” and “Unnoticed Art in Common Places.”

Your interpretation of what the pictures are and Thiru’s interpretations may be quite different.

If the pictures provoke some conversations among acquaintances, friends, family members and conference participants who view them, I will be happy.

Enjoy viewing the pictures, and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments.