Ramesh Baheti, a professional artist, graduate of Government School of Art, Aurangabad, has been experimenting with a unique art style of 'Roasted Wheat Sticks' to achieve his eco friendly portraits from the agricultural waste of wheat lids.

Wheaten Portraits

*With not so useful wheat lids, the leftover of wheat grains extraction process, **Ramesh Baheti** experiment and achieve eco-friendly portraits of world leaders and famous personalities. Here, he explains his technique behind one of the portraits of Randhir Kapoor.*

Step 1 Wheat grains when extracted from crop the wheat leads, are burnt away by the farmer, as these are neither eaten by the animals nor buried in soil for fertilizer. These wheat sticks/lids are taken in their raw form, which are later cleaned by hand with a lot of time and patience.

Step 2 In a cleaned full wheat stick you may get three or sometimes up to five different shades, so the sticks are cut according to the requirement of shade.

Step 3 Then wheat sticks are roasted in direct flame or oven, at different temperatures for different time periods to make the shades more prominent.
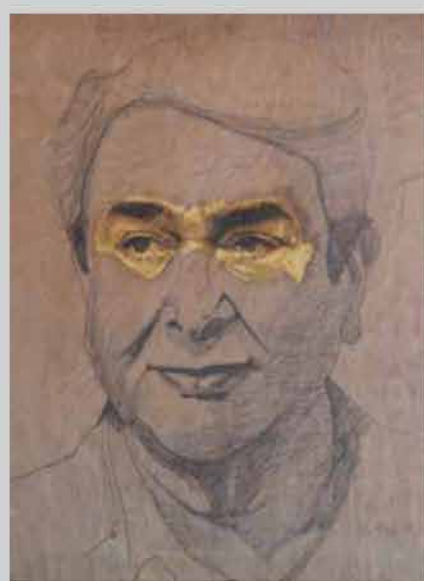

Step 4 Now a sketch is made on plywood or you can take glass, plastic or any other surface. Once the sketch is complete as per your desire, it is ready for pasting the sticks on it.

Step 5 Now sticks are chopped into thin strips as per the need of the sketch used for making the portrait.
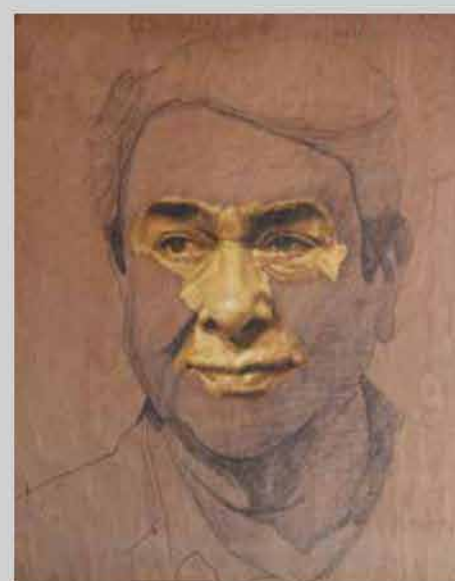

Step 6 Roasted sticks are now further cut in to even smaller pieces as per the area. They are then pasted on the sketch using suitable adhesive (depends on the surface used).
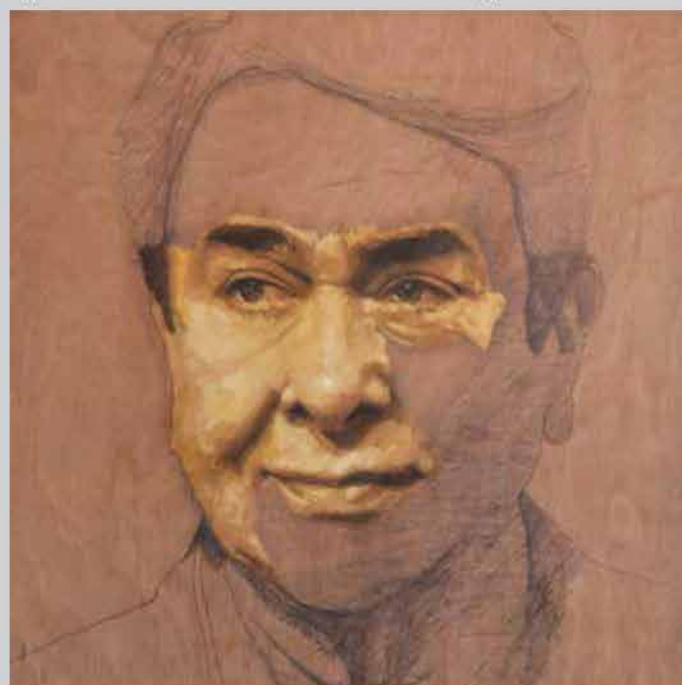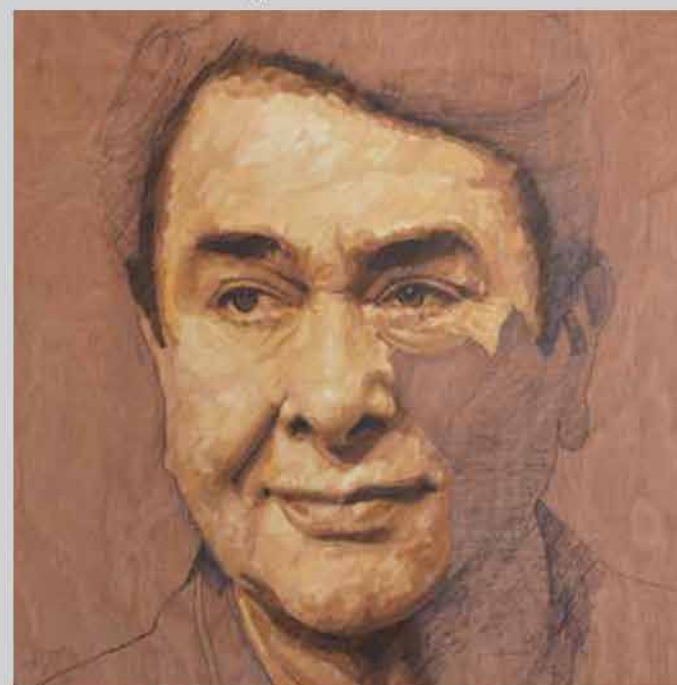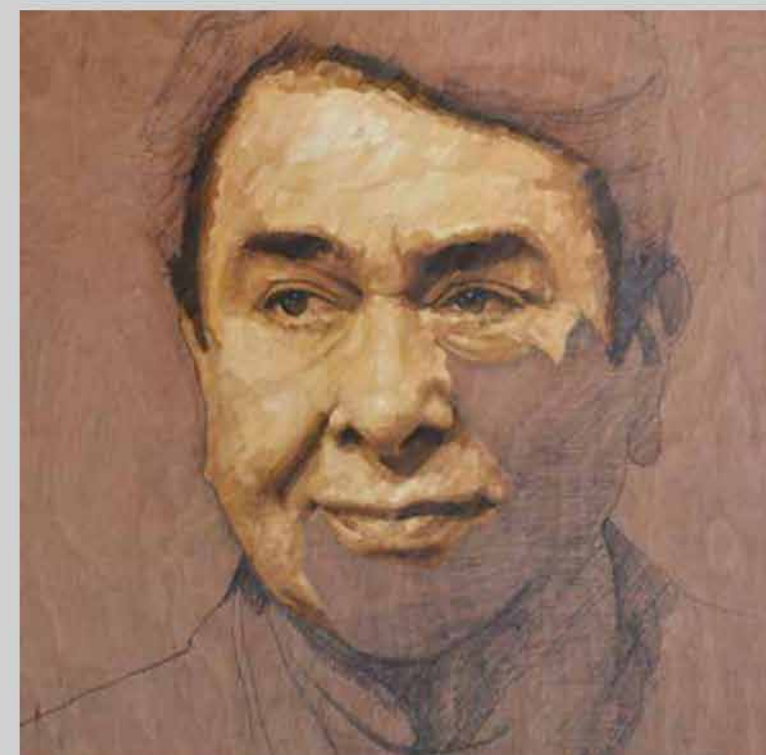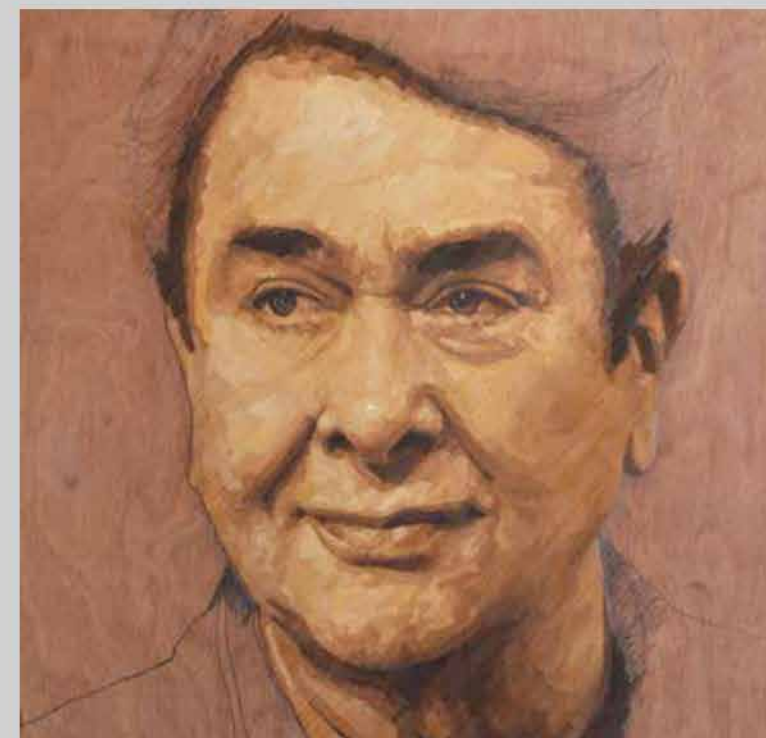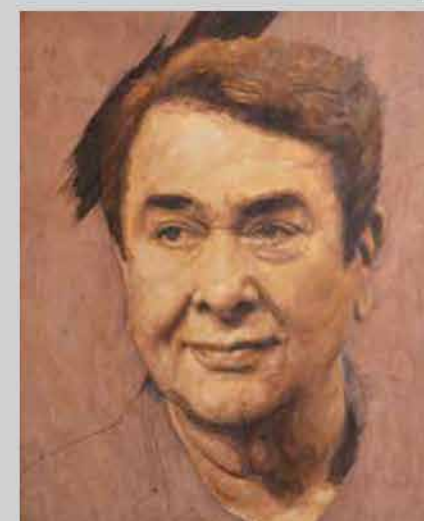

7(a)

7(b)

7(c)

7(d)
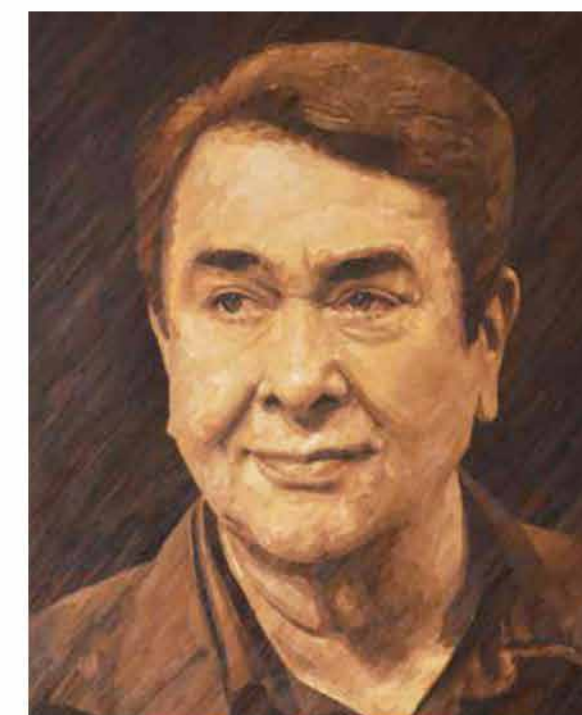

7(e)

7(f)

7(g)

7(h)

Step 7 Wheat sticks are pasted on different areas of the sketch by choosing the right tone from the right stick.

7(i)

Step 8 And at the end after so many small steps roasted wheat sticks portrait is completed. Patience and long hours are much needed for task like this. It took almost 6 months to complete the portrait of Randhir Kapoor ←