

ACSAA SYMPOSIUM, 2013
American Council for Southern Asian Art
LOS ANGELES, CA

Welcome to the sixteenth biennial ACSAA symposium, November 7-10, 2013, in Los Angeles. The program includes individual papers reflecting current directions of scholarship in South and Southeast Asian art, and chaired thematic panels proposed to reflect on broader topics, research questions, or theoretical positions. We anticipate that this combination of formats, and the mix of younger and senior scholars, will produce a very stimulating event, and we look forward to welcoming you.

Organizing Committee: Robert Brown, Bindu Gude,
Saloni Mathur, Alka Patel, Melody Rod-ari, Julie Romain.

The Program

The program includes some forty papers scheduled for presentation over three days, Friday, November 8th through Sunday, November 10th, following an opening reception at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art on Thursday evening, November 7th.

Conference Venue

The conference will be held in the California Room of the UCLA Faculty Center on the UCLA campus, 480 Charles Young Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1617.

Parking

Parking is available for conference guests in UCLA Parking Structure #2 on Charles Young Drive, just south of the Faculty Center for \$12/day. Please check in at the kiosk on Westholme Ave off Hilgard Ave, and provide attendant with Code #415293. On Saturday/Sunday, the kiosk is closed, however self-service pay stations are available at the south end of Structure #2.

Registration

Registration for the full event includes an opening cocktail reception at LACMA, lunch on all three days, a buffet dinner on Friday, Nov 8, and a wine & cheese reception on Saturday, Nov. 9. Cost for employed scholars: \$195; cost for students, unemployed and retired scholars: \$120.

ACSAA SYMPOSIUM XVI • PROGRAM

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7

- 5:00pm Bus departs from UCLA Guest House to Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- 6:00pm Opening Reception and viewing of new South and Southeast Asian Art galleries at Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd, LA CA 90036
Welcome: Bob Brown, Stephen Markel, Alka Patel
- 8:15pm Bus returns from LACMA to UCLA Guest House

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8 (California Room, UCLA Faculty Center)

- 8:00am Coffee/pastries
- 8:25am Welcome Address

8:30am **BEYOND PAINTING: OTHER HISTORIES OF THE BOOK IN SOUTH ASIA**
Chair: Yael Rice, Amherst College
Seeing Pustaka: Painted Palm-leaf Manuscripts and the Art of the Book in Medieval South Asia
Jinah Kim, Harvard University
Letters, Leaves, Scrolls, and Rolls: Manuscripts and Murals in Southeastern India
Anna Seastrand, University of Chicago
Art Books in War Zones: The One-Year Drawing Project (2005-2007)
Sonal Khullar, University of Washington

10:30am Coffee/tea break

10:45am **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT OF DEATH AND CREMATION IN SOUTH & SOUTHEAST ASIA**
Chair: Alka Patel, University of California, Irvine
Sites of Commemoration and Contestation: Maria Memorial Pillars, Burial Practices, and Spatial Politics in Bastar
Katherine Hacker, University of British Columbia
Cremation Structures and Heavenly Aspirations in Northern Thailand
Rebecca S Hall, The Walters Art Museum
Memory by Design: Swaminarayan Hinduism through Space & Object in Modern Gujarat
Shruti Patel, University of Washington
The MGR Samadhi: Renovations in Cultural Memory and Statecraft
Amy-Ruth Holt, Independent Scholar

12:45pm Lunch

1:45pm **PRE-COLONIAL ENCOUNTERS OF SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA**
Chair: Rebecca Brown, Johns Hopkins University
'Wherefore does the earth quake?': Artistic exchange & the construction of Buddhist homelands in Andhra and Sri Lanka
Catherine Becker, University of Illinois at Chicago
Performing on the Margins: Disruptive Pot-Bellied Figures (Ganas & Punakawans in Architectural Spaces)
Natalia Di Pietrantonio, Cornell University
Portraiture of Africans in the Deccan
Marika Sardar, San Diego Museum of Art
'If we come to Cairo brothers....on the left there is a mosque on a hill!'
Ahmed Wahby, The German University in Cairo

3:45pm Coffee/tea break

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8 (cont.)

4:00pm **SOUTH & SOUTHEAST ASIAN ARTISTS IN THE WESTERN SCENE: A CRITICAL LOOK AT RECEPTION**
Chair: Sunanda K. Sanyal, Art Institute of Boston at Lesley University
South & Southeast Asian Artists in the Western Scene: A Critical Look at Reception
Mary-Ann Milford, Mills College
Blue Like Me: Paintings by Siona Benjamin
Siona Benjamin, Artist
A Cultural Well or a Straightjacket?
Annu P. Matthew, University of Rhode Island
Sensuous Histories: Critical Receptions of Chitra Ganesh in India and the North American Press
Rashmi Viswanathan, New York University
Discussant: **Ori Soltes, Georgetown University**

6:00-8:00pm Dinner at UCLA Faculty Center (for registered participants only)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9 (California Room, UCLA Faculty Center)

8:00am Coffee/pastries

8:30am **THE CONTEMPORARY**
Chair: Atreyee Gupta, Haus der Kunst, Munich
Backdrop or Framework? The College/University as Architecture Setting in Bollywood
Hawon Ku, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Seoul
Lines of Inquiry: Partition, Historiography and the Art of Zarina Hashmi
Aparna M. Kumar, UCLA
Environment in Transition, Art in Response to a Changing Landscape
Kathryn Myers, University of Connecticut
The Book and the Animate Camera: Dayanita Singh's "House of Love"
Ajay Sinha, Mt. Holyoke College

10:30am Coffee/tea break

10:45am **THE TEMPLE: USES AND REUSES**
Chair: Donald Stadtner, Walnut Creek, CA
Circumambulation and Its Opposite: Visual and Verbal Cues to Movement at the Kailasanatha Temple Complex in Kanchipuram
Padma Kaimal, Colgate University
Transporting Sculptures & Transferring Prestige: Reuse of the Hoysala Style in the Belur Andal Shrine
Katherine E. Kasdorf, Shraman Foundation
Winged Migration: Tracing the Bracket Figures on the Amethi Temple, Banaras
Heeryoon Shin, Yale University
Which God Shall We Install? Early Swaminarayan Iconography & its Relationship to Vaishnavism
Cynthia Packert, Middlebury College

12:45pm Lunch

1:45pm **ICONOGRAPHY, STYLE, AND ARTIST**
Chair: Rick Asher, University of Minnesota
In Search of the Identity of the Masked Deity in Bali (Indonesia)
Bokyoung Kim, Whitman College
Evidence of an Artist: Identifying Chokha in the Wall Paintings at the Udaipur City Palace
Ainsley M. Cameron, Philadelphia Museum of Art
Musical Modes and Painted Images: Ragamala Paintings in the 17th to 19th Centuries
Allysa Peyton, Harn Museum of Art

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9 (cont.)

3:45pm Coffee/tea break

4:00pm

PAINTINGS

Chair: Sonya Quintanilla, Cleveland Museum of Art

Eating India and Painting Persia: On the Visual Production of "Cultural" Consumption in the Nimat Nama cookbook, c. 1500, from the "City of Pleasure" (Mandu, Malwa)

Deborah L. Stein, Independent Scholar

Production and Circulation of Late Seventeenth Century "Malwa" Manuscripts

Neeraja Poddar, Columbia University

Style Values: The Formation of the Edwin Binney 3rd Collection and His Role as Scholar-Collector

Brinda Kumar, Cornell University

5:45pm ACSAA Business Meeting

7:00pm Wine & Cheese Reception/Toast Honoring Rick and Cathy Asher

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 (California Room, UCLA Faculty Center)

8:00am Coffee/pastries

8:30am

THE CITY

Chair: Sugata Ray, UC Berkeley

Jaipur and Its Subjects

Catherine B. Asher, University of Minnesota

Gardens, Carpets & Princely Pageantry: The Ceremonial Cladding of Seventeenth Century Amber

Sylvia Houghteling, Yale University

Architecture as History: Conceptualizing the Past in Nineteenth-Century Mughal India

Chanchal Dadlani, Wake Forest University

Postcards and the Adventure of Colonialism in Delhi

Aditi Chandra, California College of the Arts

10:30am Coffee/tea break

10:45am

THE TEMPLE AND THE CAVE: PLANS AND DESIGNS

Chair: Tamara Sears, Yale University

Under the Elephant's Path: Takht and Temple Architecture in Pakistan

Michael W. Meister, University of Pennsylvania

Caves 19 and 26: in Medias Res

Walter Spink, University of Michigan

The Brahmanical Temple as a Representation and Instrument of Caste

Gary Michael Tartakov, Iowa State University

American Hindu Temples: Developments in Modern Hindu Temple Architecture

Adrian Smythies, Independent Scholar

12:45pm Concluding Remarks

1:00pm Farewell Lunch