

HYBRID LOTUSES: The Flowering of Indian-Related Culture in Siam and Burma



Sunday, November 8, 2009, 2:15 p.m.

Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum, 200 Larkin Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102



Mythical bird-woman, Thailand, approx. 1930-1950, Copper alloy with remnants of lacquer, The Avery Brundage Collection, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco

This program is presented in conjunction with the exhibition, ***Emerald Cities: Arts of Siam and Burma, 1775-1950***, October 23, 2009-January 10, 2010 at the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco.



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Society for Art & Cultural Heritage of India and the Asian Art Museum invite you to a special SACHI annual event:

HYBRID LOTUSES: The Flowering of Indian-Related Culture in Siam and Burma

by Dr. Forrest McGill

Chief Curator and Wattis Curator of South and Southeast Asian Art, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco

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200 Larkin Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102

Free after museum admission • Light refreshments

More than a thousand years ago Southeast Asian kingdoms adapted aspects of Indian classical culture, from the great religious traditions of Hinduism and Buddhism to mythology, astronomy, and royal ceremonial. In nineteenth-century Siam and Burma, the focus of the Asian Art Museum's current exhibition, many of these traditions continued to thrive, though often in forms that would not be immediately recognizable from the Indian point of view. The epic of Rama was one of the most important subjects in dance-drama, the puppet theater, painting, and sculpture and the Pali and Sanskrit languages continued to be studied by monks and scholars. The talk will explore some of these Indic connections, as they can be seen in the artworks in the museum's exhibition.

Enjoy a free 12 noon public tour of the exhibition • Free Sunday street parking

SACHI and the Asian Art Museum extend special thanks to Willis Deming and Lata Krishnan & Ajay Shah for generously sponsoring this event.

Front: Scenes from the Burmese version of the epic of Rama, Burma, approx. 1850-1900, Cotton, wool, silk, sequins, Museum purchase, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco