

2007 ASIAN ART EXHIBITIONS

TEZUKA: THE MARVEL OF MANGA
FEBRUARY – APRIL

ISHIUCHI MIYAKO: MOTHER'S
MAY – AUGUST

**THE ARTS OF ISLAM: TREASURES FROM
THE NASSER D. KHALILI COLLECTION**
JUNE – AUGUST

**TRANSLUCENT WORLD: CHINESE JADE FROM
THE PALACE MUSEUM**
AUGUST – NOVEMBER

**MOUNTAINS AND STREAMS: CHINESE PAINTINGS FROM
THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA COLLECTION**
NOVEMBER 07 – JANUARY 08



cover: Rostam, aided by his horse, Rakhsh, slays a dragon, Iran, Tabriz, 1520s (detail)
Nasser D. Khalili Collection of Islamic Art, inv. no. Mss 956

Literature and Legend 1

VisAsia 

Celebrating Asian art and culture
www.asianart.com.au

ART GALLERY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
ART GALLERY RD THE DOMAIN 2000
INFORMATION LINE 1800 679 278
www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au

ART
GALLERY
NSW

LITERATURE AND LEGEND IN THE ARTS OF ASIA

In this first half of a two-year course we journey through the Middle East to India, the Himalayas and Southeast Asia, focusing on the rich artistic heritage inspired by powerful legends, magnificent myths, romantic histories and profound philosophies. Under the sway of major religious traditions such as Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam, and boasting a wealth of secular stories, each of these cultures have left behind an artistic legacy that ranges from elegant calligraphy and jewel-like illuminated manuscripts to resplendent textiles and narratives immortalised in temple reliefs.

In Literature and Legend 1 we consider such iconic texts as the:

Qur'an, the central religious text of Islam and the word of God as revealed to the prophet Muhammad

Shahnama, the Book of Kings, an epic history of Persia written in 1000 CE by the poet Firdawsī

Mahabharata, literally 'Great India', an immense epic poem conveying Hindu religious and philosophical concepts

Ramayana, ancient Sanskrit epic of the prince Rama, whose wife Sita is abducted by the demon king Ravana

Jataka, Aesop's Fables-style stories of the previous lives of the Buddha

Our lectures reveal tales of valorous princes, heroic battles and incredible journeys. We recount magical folktales and poignant love stories. Literature and Legend 2 in 2008 focuses on East Asia and such classics as China's *Dream of the Red Chamber* and Japan's *Tale of the Genji*.

Course format The Arts of Asia lecture series, through the support of VisAsia, forms an integral role in maintaining the Art Gallery of New South Wales as Australia's premier institution for Asian art exhibitions, events and education. The series draws on the expertise of the Gallery's Asian art professionals and external scholars, curators, practitioners and collectors. Each term includes eleven lectures, concluding with a revision lecture. In this year's course Term 1 focuses on the Islamic world and Term 2 the Hindu-Buddhist world. Those enrolled for the full course are eligible to sit for a slide test and submit an essay leading to a diploma.

Substantial savings may be made by booking for the full year or term. Discounts are available to members of the Art Gallery Society, VisAsia and The Asian Arts Society of Australia. You are also welcome to attend lectures on an individual basis. We look forward to your participation in an enriching and engaging series.

ARTS OF ASIA LITERATURE AND LEGEND 1

2007 LUNCHTIME LECTURE SERIES
TUESDAYS 1-2 PM DOMAIN THEATRE
ART GALLERY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

TERM 1

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 6 March | The presence of the Word: symbolism in Islamic art and architecture Samer Akkach |
| 13 March | Writing the Qur'an: speech of the invisible God made visible Anthony Johns |
| 20 March | Woven words: poetic themes in textiles of the Safavid Persian and Ottoman Turkish courts Susan Scollay |
| 27 March | Romance and tragedy in the Persian epic Charlotte Schriwer |
| 3 April | Here is love: poetry of Rumi and the art of Hossein Valamanesh Hossein Valamanesh |
| 17 April | The tales of the parrot and other early Mughal painted entertainments Jim Masselos |
| 24 April | Battles, bravery and beyond: chronicles of the Mughal emperors Chaya Chandrasekhar |
| 1 May | Manichaeism art in Iran and Central Asia Sam Lieu |
| 8 May | Influence of Indian epics on Indonesian Islamic art James Bennett |
| 15 May | Pirates to prophets: legendary heroes and icons in Malaysia Matt Cox |
| 22 May | The Indigenous La Galigo legend and the influence of Islam on the talismanic flags of South Sulawesi Joanna Barrkman |
| 29 May | Revision |

TERM 2

- 7 August **Mahabharata, India's greatest epic: its stories and myths, and significance for Indian culture**
Tamara Ditrich
- 14 August **The epic *Ramayana*: its heroes, heroines, history, and heritage** Chaya Chandrasekhar
- 21 August **Love song of the dark lord: illustrations of the *Gita Govinda*** Jackie Menzies
- 28 August **Expressions of love and devotion: bhakti poetry and Rajput painting** Carol Cains
- 4 September **Jatakas: the Buddha's previous births in Indian art and literature** Mark Allon
- 11 September **Buddhist narrative in Tibetan literature**
David Templeman
- 18 September ***Chronicle of the Auspicious Era*: a Nepalese account of the Buddha's life** Chaya Chandrasekhar
- 25 September **Romancing the tome: a Jataka tale in Javanese verse** Kate O'Brien
- 2 October **Vessantara Jataka: text as imagery in Cambodia and Thailand** Gill Green
- 9 October **Text and image in Panji stories from Bali**
Adrian Vickers
- 16 October **Tales of the Mekong: Revealing Angkor to the world** Milton Osborne
- 23 October **Revision**
- 30 October **Slide Test**

BOOKING FORM

LITERATURE AND LEGEND 1

Lectures	VISASIA/ AGS/TAASA members	No of tickets	Non- members	No of tickets	TOTAL
----------	----------------------------------	------------------	-----------------	------------------	-------

Tuesdays 1-2pm

Full year	\$300		\$430		\$
Term 1	\$175		\$225		\$
Term 2	\$175		\$225		\$
Single lecture	\$18		\$25		\$

For single lectures, please specify dates:

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Dr)

FIRST NAME

SURNAME

Membership No (if applicable)

Address

Postcode

Telephone (AH)

(BH)

Telephone (AH)

(BH)

Email

PAYMENT METHOD (please tick payment options)

Please accept my payment of \$ _____ by:

CHEQUE payable to Art Gallery Society of New South Wales

CREDIT CARD American Express Visa Mastercard

card number

cardholder's name

cardholder's signature

card expires /

HOW TO BOOK

Phone (02) 9225 1878

Post Art Gallery Society of NSW

Art Gallery Road The Domain Sydney NSW 2000

Online www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/events/courses

ART
GALLERY
NSW

2007 ARTS OF ASIA LECTURERS LITERATURE AND LEGEND 1

Dr Samer Akkach, associate professor in architectural design, history and theory and founding director, Centre for Asian and Middle Eastern Architecture (CAMEA), University of Adelaide

Dr Mark Allon, lecturer in South Asian Buddhist studies, Department of Indian Subcontinental Studies, University of Sydney

Joanna Barrkman, curator of Southeast Asian art and material culture, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory

James Bennett, curator of Asian art, Art Gallery of South Australia

Carol Cains, curator of Asian art, National Gallery of Victoria

Dr Chaya Chandrasekhar, curator of South and Southeast Asian art, Art Gallery of New South Wales

Matt Cox, conservator, Art Gallery of New South Wales

Dr Tamara Ditrach, lecturer in eastern religions and co-director, Centre for Buddhist Studies, University of Queensland

Dr Gill Green, honorary associate, Department of Art History and Theory, University of Sydney

Professor Anthony Johns, Qur'anic Arabic scholar and emeritus professor, Australian National University

Professor Sam Lieu, FAHA, FSA, professor of ancient history and co-director, Ancient History Documentary Research Centre, Department of Ancient History, Macquarie University

Dr Jim Masselos, honorary reader, School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, University of Sydney

Jackie Menzies, head curator of Asian art, Art Gallery of New South Wales

Dr Kate O'Brien, research associate, University of Sydney

Dr Milton Osborne, independent scholar and adjunct professor of Asian studies, Australian National University

Susan Scollay, Eastern and historic textile specialist, contributing editor *Hali* and PhD candidate, School of Historical and European Studies, La Trobe University

Dr Charlotte Schriwer, project assistant, *The Arts of Islam: treasures from the Nasser D. Khalili collection*

David Templeman, independent scholar and PhD candidate, Monash Asia Institute, Monash University

Hossein Valamanesh, artist

Professor Adrian Vickers, professor of Southeast Asian studies, School of Languages and Cultures, University of Sydney

TO BOOK see the form on reverse.