

MEDIA ADVISORY

Experts weave stories of Asian textiles at Asian Civilisations Museum



Art lovers, textile enthusiasts, and Asian cultural history buffs are invited to join a distinguished panel of international academics and experts for a one-day conference dedicated to exploring the Indian textile trade that shaped the cultural landscapes of many countries in Asia.

This conference will be held at the Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM) on Saturday, 21 April 2012, in conjunction with the museum's current special exhibition, *Patterns of Trade: Indian Textiles for Export, 1400–1900*.

These extraordinary textiles show the deep roots of today's globalised world and the surprising and fascinating impact of cultural exchange. The conference will provide deeper insight into the trade and markets, historical significance, and production of Indian textiles, as well as their influence on indigenous traditions. Speakers include John Guy, curator of the Arts of South and Southeast Asia at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; and Leonard Andaya, professor of Southeast Asian History at the University of Hawaii, Manoa.

Mark your diary and join the discussion as the experts share their insights and interpretations.

Schedule

Morning session: 9am to 12.45pm

To step on the spread cloth: Indian textiles, the globalisation of exchange, and a short history of Indian Ocean trade

John Guy

Curator, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Pathways of cloth to eastern Indonesia and Siam

Leonard Y. Andaya

Professor, University of Hawaii, Manoa, and

Tan Chin Tuan Visiting Professor, National University of Singapore

A taste for textiles

Ruurdje Laarhoven

Adjunct professor, Hawaii Pacific University

Panel Discussion 1 / Q & A

Afternoon session: 2pm to 6pm

Production of Indian textiles for trade: Limitations and shifting paradigms

Gauri Krishnan

Director, Indian Heritage Centre, Singapore

Toraja and the textile trade: Heirloom cloths, ritual and status among the Sa'dan

Toraja of Sulawesi

Roxana Waterson

Associate professor, National University of Singapore

Indian trade textiles to Thailand from the 17th to 20th century

Prapasorn Posrithong

Independent scholar, Thailand

Panel Discussion 2 / Q & A

Curator's Tour

Limited spaces available. Registration is open on the conference day on a first-come, first-served basis.

General Information

Registration fee (excludes SISTIC booking fee):

- Adult: \$50
- 50% discount for students and senior citizens aged 60 and above
- 20% discount for Museum volunteers, Friends of the Museums (Singapore), ACM Friends, and NHB staff

Registration fee includes:

- One lunch and two teas
- Free admission to the exhibition
- Conference pack

Admission tickets can be purchased on the SISTIC website, at all SISTIC outlets, and via 6348 5555. Tickets are also available for sale at the ACM's front counter on weekdays, 10am to 6pm (1pm to 6pm on Mondays).

Date : Saturday, 21 April 2012

Time : 9am to 6pm

Venue : Ngee Ann Auditorium
Asian Civilisations Museum
1 Empress Place
Singapore 179555

Enquiries : 6332 7992 / nhb_acm_conference@nhb.gov.sg.

How to get there*
By MRT - Raffles Place
By Bus - 75, 100, 107, 130, 131, 167
By Car - parking is available at New Parliament House, Connaught Drive, The Fullerton Hotel, One Fullerton and Six Battery Road

** Visitors are also advised to use public transport. The Asian Civilisations Museum can be reached from a road in front of Victoria Theatre, from Fullerton Road (Anderson Bridge). Old Parliament Lane is now closed.*

For more details, visit www.acm.org.sg.

For more information, please contact:

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About the Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM)

The Asian Civilisations Museum is dedicated to exploring the rich artistic heritage of Asia, especially Singapore's ancestral cultures. Through a collection of works of art and a varied exhibition programme, we hope to deepen understanding of Southeast Asia, China, South Asia, West Asia, and the Peranakan world. Rare among museums in Asia, the ACM connects audiences with many cultures.