

Recent Books of Art and Art History – October - November 2001

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Iskandar Jalil : Square One: A Potter's Journey
Author : Iskandar Jalil

Iskander Jalil (b.1940) is undoubtedly Singapore's leading potter and teacher of pottery. This presentation of his work and thought is published to celebrate the 40 years' history of the Economic Development Board, now of course concerned with the country's cultural as well as strictly economic dimensions. The 100 or so outstanding photographs well convey the diversity and depth of Iskander Jalil's oeuvre

Pub : Economic Development Board, Singapore Year : 2001 Bib : HB 125pp ISBN : 9810444664 Price : US\$ 45.00

See Cheen Tee: Artist Extraordinaire
master draughtsman, printmaker, painter and cartoonist
edited by See Yee Wah ; written by Chia Wai Hon.

Published to complement the recent Singapore exhibition of the work of See Cheen Tee (1928-96) this substantial volume makes clear his major contribution in the Singapore art world. Trengganu-born, See Cheen Tee was 1947-72 one of the leading pupils and teachers at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. Essays and photographs trace his background and career and introduce 280 well-reproduced examples of his diverse oeuvre. Woodblock prints in the 'social conscience' tradition of China brought early recognition and the remarkable drawings, watercolours, paintings and cartoons presented here indicate the range of See Cheen Tee's techniques and high achievements.

Pub : : Raffles Avenue Editions, Singapore Year : 2001 Bib : 212pp ill 31cm ISBN : 9810439407 Price : US\$ 70.00

Sacred Threads: Ceremonial Textiles of Southeast Asia

Ceremonial textiles, which form such an important part of the cultural rites from Southeast Asia, are being exhibited by the Textile Friends of Singapore at the Asian Civilizations Museum from November 2001 to March 2002. An overview of the history, manufacture and significance of these cloths created in Southeast Asia since earliest times, introduces 28 fine colour photographs of artefacts exhibited. Pieces are mainly from private collections.

Pub : Textile Friends of Singapore, Singapore Year : 2001 ISBN : 9810452306 Bib : PB 62pp Price : US\$ 29.50

Emilio Ambron: An Italian Artist in Bali
Author : Carpenter, Bruce W.

The career of Emilio Ambron (1905-96) took him from his roots in an eminent Egyptian/Italian family to Bali in 1938. This presentation of Ambron's paintings, drawings and sculptures highlights the inspiration he received from his time in Bali 1938-41 and in China and Indochina 1941-46. Includes photographs and a long biographical essay.

Pub : Singapore Year : 2001 Bib : HB 208pp ISBN: 9814068152 Price : US\$ 68.00

Treasury of the World: Jewelled Arts of India in the Age of the Mughals
Author : Keene, Manuel & Salam Kaoukji

This catalogue of the current international exhibition, the Jewelled Arts of India in the Age of the Mughals, presents many magnificent items never before seen in public. Scholarly comment introduces the designs, styles and craft methods of the Indian Islamic jewellers. The book offers a rich feast of visual delight. With glossary and bibliography.

Pub : Thames & Hudson, London Year : 2001 Bib : PB 160pp col ill maps 28cm ISBN : 0500976082
Price : US\$ 27.00

Kayumangi
biographies of Philippine visual artists, 2000

Pub : Peson Book Foundation, Quezon City, Philippines Year : 2000
Bib : 135, [6], [8] p. of plates : ill. (some col.) ; 29 cm ISBN : 971922360x Price : US\$ 35.00

The Art of Indian Asia
Its Mythology and Transformations
(2 Vols)

Author: Heinrich Zimmer
Completed and Edited by Joseph Campbell
with photographs by Eliot Elisofon and others.

Reprint - First Published in 1955 - Pantheon Books, New York (2nd Ed in 1960 & Reprinted again in 1983)

Pub : Motilal Banarsidass, New Delhi Year : 2001 Reprint Bib : 2v ills maps 26cm xxxvii, 465p+614plates Index
ISBN : 8120816307 Price : US\$ 90.00 (Set)

A Zoroastrian Tapestry
Art, Religion & Culture

Editor : Pheroza J Godrej & Firoza Punthakey Mistree

The Zoroastrians are the followers of the Iranian Prophet Spitaman Zarathushtra who lived in the great Iranian homeland of Airyanem Vaejah c1200 BCE. They entered recorded history in 550 BCE and for nearly a thousand years their religion flourished as the imperial religion of three great Iranian empires : Achaemenian, Parthian and Sasanian.

During this period, Zoroastrianism was a dominant religion whose beliefs influenced Judaism, Christianity and later Islam. The vast extent of their empire brought the Zoroastrians in contact with people of different races and traditions. Their willingness to absorb and adapt these influences led them to develop a distinct art form, as evident in the City palaces of Pasargade and Persepolis and in the rock carvings of Naqsh-e-Rostam and Taq-e Bostan.

This lavishly illustrated volume attempts to span a vast period of time and gives a glimpse of the life and times of the Zoroastrian people in Iran and India as manifested in their art, religion and Culture.

Pub : Mapin Publishing Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad Year: 2002 Bib : 726pp 1100 Colour and 150 b&w photographs, bibliography, Glossary, map 10 x13" (254 x 330mm) HB ISBN : 8185822719 / 1890206229 Price : US\$ 250.00

Jewels on the Crescent

Masterpieces of the Prince of Wales Museum of Western India Author : Kalpana Desai

Situated in the famous crescent site near Gateway of India in Mumbai is the landmark heritage building that houses the Prince of Wales Museum of Western India. It is one of the most exquisite examples of the Indo-Saracenic architectural style for which the architect, George Wittet, is well known.

The collection includes important collections of miniature paintings in the country and decorative arts in textiles, jade, wood and ivory, among other mediums, which provide a glimpse of the inherent skills of the Indian craftsmen of the 18th and 19th Centuries.

The Nepal and Tibet Collection showcases essential features of Tantric Buddhism including the 16th Century image of Sron-Tsan-Gampo who is known to have established Buddhism in Tibet.

Pub : Mapin Publishing Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad With Prince of Wales Museum of Western India, Mumbai Year : 2002 Bib : 356pp 286 Colour and 100 b&w Photographs 228 x 305mm HB ISBN : 8188204005/189020644x Price : US\$ 65.00

Sojourns of a Painter

Shyamal Dutta Ray and His Times

Author : Mrinal Ghosh

Series : Contemporary Indian Artists Series

The imagery in Ray's paintings come from his personal experiences. It is this visual world and its impact that are revealed in his work, with his city in Calcutta and his early days in a village in Bangladesh as major themes.

He is the winner of many awards and his works are in the collections of the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, National Gallery of Modern Art and Lalit Kala Academy, New Delhi etc..

Pub : Mapin Publishing Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad with Chitrakoot Art Gallery, Calcutta Year : 2001 Bib : 108pp 54 Colour and 46 b&w Photographs 216 x 267mm PB ISBN : 8185822867/189020630x Price : US\$ 30.00

Paritosh Sen
In Retrospect

Author : Manasji Majumder, Ella Datta, Kunal Chakraborti and Paritosh Sen Series : Contemporary Indian Artists Series

At 83, Paritosh Sen towers above many of his contemporaries in the rare quality of his creative personality -unwithered by age and exuding an aura and charisma that are the sterling gifts of his experience.

These facets of his personality can be glimpsed in the assemblage of Sen's oeuvre - his first retrospective - with A selection of works covering more than 60 years of his creative life, beginning in the end of the 30s when the Bengal School Movement still retained much of its hold over the Indian Art Scene.

Pb : Mapin Publishing Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad with Tulsyan Technologies, Chennai Year : 2001 Bib : 164pp 162 colour and 20 b&w Photographs, 216 x 273mm HB ISBN : 818582293x/1890206350 Price : US\$ 40.00

Crossing Boundaries
The Art of Lee Waisler

Editors : John Hollander, Gayatri Patnaik, Arturo Schwarz, Margaret Sheffield , Sundaram Tagore

Lee Waisler addresses the multiplicity of forms, subjects and concepts that has become a part of Our vernacular in the present day by making his viewer aware of pre-existing links among diverse entities. Deeply conscious of post-modern sensibilities while incorporating Eastern influences into his work, Waisler combines numerous visual and philosophical elements into his life and art and renders them Distinctly relevant to questions of identity and humanity. On a continuous artistic trek towards resolving these Questions, Lee Waisler invites his audience - whether in a museum or on the street- to enjoy the convergence of the Spiritual, the cerebral and the aesthetic.

Pub : Mapin Publishing Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad with Sundaram Tagore Gallery, New York Year : 2002 Bib : 144pp 75 colour and 25 b&w photographs 228 x 280mm HB ISBN : 8185822948/1890206342 Price : US\$ 50.00

Feminine Fables
Imaging the Indian Woman in Painting, Photograph and Cinema

Author : Geeti Sen

A new iconography of the Indian woman seems to be emerging which challenges the traditional 'images' and roles of women. Dramatic changes in projecting the woman reflect changes in societal norms and taboos - In a country which has both Defiled the woman and idolised her. These roles of the modern woman are subversive, mapping out bold new frontiers for her to explore. The effects are persuasive in being projected through the media, the fourth estate in society and through the Popular genre of Hindi Cinema.

Set against the feminist discourse, these images raise different questions about 'seeing' the Indian woman. Traced over the century, they suggest an extraordinary transformation in imaging the Indian woman, as manifested in Painting, photography, popular posters and classical cinema and as examined here in works by both men and women.

In five seminal essays, this book examines central issues regarding the woman, whether she is regarded as a woman or a goddess; whether her body is treated as an object or subject of pleasure; if she has the freedom to move from the Home to the world outside; if she is expected to play multiple roles or is perceived in her integral self; and if she Has learnt now to re-assert her own power.

Pub : Mapin Publishing Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad Year : 2002 Bib : 200pp 100 colour & 20 b&w illustrations, bibliography 228 x 280mm ISBN : 1890206318/8185822883 Price : US\$ 45.00

The Flute and the Lotus
Romantic Moments in Indian Poetry and Painting

Author : Harsha Dehejia

This is a book about romantic moments, heart throbbing moments, soul-stirring moments and enchanted moments that have inspired poets, enlivened courts and enriched havelis and been celebrated by our artists, been patronised by the raja and indulged in by the praja. Sensual moments alive with passion and radiant with emotion are equally of amorous pleasure and heart-rendering pathos. Such romantic moments are a very special part of the love between a man and woman.

The author traces the development of romantic poetry in the Indian tradition starting with ancient poetry in Prakrit from the fourth century court of Hala, through the Tamil Aham poetry, to Kalidasa's creations in classical Sanskrit, the 10th canto of the Bhagvata Purana, Jayadeva's Geeta Govinda the poetry of Bihari, Keshavdas and Bhanudatta of the ritikal period in the bhashas, Sufi romantic poetry and finally the poetry of the seasons and ragas.

The Paintings cover a period of about 500 years of the romantic Indian tradition from western Indian painting of the 15th century, the Sultanate period, the Mughal and the Deccan style, the Rajasthani and Pahari, to a glimpse of the 19th century Madhubani and Kalighat movements.

Pub: Mapin Publishing pvt.Ltd , Ahmedabad Year : 2001
Bib : 2002, 288pp, 126 colour and 40 b&w photographs, 216x280cm
ISBN : 1890206326 (Grantha)/ 8185822891 (Mapin) Price : US\$ 55.00

Dictionary of Indian Art and Artists

Author : Pratima Sheth

From Ajanta to Yoni to Halatol, with its over 2000 entries on painting, drawing, prints and sculpture , including more than 300 colour illustrations, Dictionary of Indian Art presents a comprehensive picture of the world of art in India. The first book to focus exclusively on the evolution and context of Indian art, it provides a roadmap for the artist, student, art professional and art lover to discover or advance knowledge on artists, movements, monuments and institutions that represent the creative force of Indian art.

Pub : Mapin Publishing Pvt. Ltd , Ahmedabad Year : 2002

Bib : 384pp, 300 colour and 21 b&w photographs, bibliography, glossary 7.5 X10

ISBN : 1890206334 [Grantha] , 8185822905 [Mapin]

Price : US\$ 65.00

Indian Sculpture and Iconography

Author : V.Ganapati Sthapati

This is a rare book which gives in great detail the form and accurate measurements of all varieties of Indian sculpture, along with their underlying spiritual vision and philosophy. This information is based on the ancient sculptural texts and the long ancestral tradition and actual experience of the Sthapatis.

The book is divided into three parts and 36 chapters. The first section of nine chapter deals with the philosophy and spiritual thought coiffures, ornaments, weapons, the use of symbols as accessories, the sculptural representations of flora, animals and birds the fashioning of images in metal and katusarkara. The last set of 18 chapters presents the basic rhythms and measurements used in traditional sculptural practices. These chapters serve as a guide-book for a practicing sculpture.

Pub : Mapin Publishing pvt.ltd , Ahmedabad with Sri Aurobindo Society, Pondicherry
Year : 2002

Bib : 500pp, 300 line drawings, glossary, index, 9x11

ISBN: 1890206377 [Grantha] , ISBN : 8185822972 [Mapin]

Price : US\$ 75.00

India : A Historical Lila

Auctions of Indian modern and Contemporary Paintings , Drawings and Graphic Art

Curated and Written by Neville Tuli

Tuli's auction catalogues have become essential reference publications for those seriously interested in Indian modern and contemporary art. Their quality of research, design and pictorial reproduction has set new standards for such catalogues. India : A historical lila includes the very best the Indian modern and contemporary art has to offer. It also includes a detailed bibliography, ideal for scholars and collectors.

Pub : Mapin Publishing Pvt. LTd. Dist : OSIAN's Connoisseurs of art Pvt. Ltd Mumbai
Year : 2001 Bib : 224pp, 236 colour illustrations, 10.75x 8.25 , Pb

ISBN : 8190124714 [Osian's] , ISBN : 1890206393 [Grantha] , 8188204013 [Mapin]

Price : US\$ 50.00

Heaven and Empire : Khmer Bronzes from the 9th to the 15th Centuries
Author : L Marlene Zefferys

This survey features some of the world's finest examples of the art of the lost wax method of bronze casting. The superb artists of the Khmer Empire of ancient Cambodia blended the two greatest influences of their time, Hinduism and Buddhism, to create bronze images that reflected the religious, mystical, and sensual beauty of this culture. The text features bronzes from the collections of the Phnom Penh Royal Museum of Fine Art, The National Museum Bangkok, The National Museum Phimai, and from private collections, many never before published. The volume is a must for collectors, antique dealers, art historians, libraries, and museums as well as those interested in learning about this magnificent art form of the Khmer Empire.

Pub: White Lotus Press, Bangkok Year:2001 ISBN:9747534932 (Pb) Bib :156pp, 91pp. color illus., 210x290mm Price : US\$ 49.50

The Cultural Monuments of Tibet's Outer Provinces. AMDO. Vol:2
The Gansu and Sechuan Parts
Author : Andreas Gruschke

The second volume reveals that Tibetans have rebuilt their economy and revitalized their traditional way of life.

Despite Tibet being an issue, east Tibet has not until now been thoroughly researched, though it comprises about two thirds of the Tibetan Plateau. It is astounding, therefore, that the West knows hardly anything about it. This book makes up this deficit, providing interested readers with comprehensive information about unknown sites in Amdo, which are fascinating and puzzling, as well as their role in history.

This second volume on Amdo first presents unknown Tibetan Buddhist art and hitherto overlooked Sino-Tibetan lamaseries on the silk Road fringes. Labrang Monastery in the Tibeto-chinese borderlands highlights the nexus between Tibet, East and Central Asia. Continuing south in Gansu, the Sichuan part of Amdo contains a wealth of local Tibetan cultural centers. The importance of the Ngawa Gelupa realm and the last Jonangpa communities in Dzangthang have been absolutely underestimated for centuries. This book helps to dispel some of the uninformed views which have been spread in the West.

Detailed descriptions of the major historic sites facilitate understanding of their development, and provides guidance to find the sights and understand what can be seen there. One can prepare a tour to this region in advance by going through this presentation of the extraordinary cultural monuments presented in this volume.

Serta, the world's largest Buddhist academy, virtually unknown, has impressive architectural features such as the Jonang chorten and temple towers seen nowhere else in Tibet. These add to the hidden treasures of Amdo's living and revitalized Buddhist tradition. The region presented in this book is one of diversity in a highland realm that for long was neglected in respect of its historic and cultural importance.

Pub: White Lotus Press, Bangkok Year:2001 ISBN:9747534903 (Pb) Bib : 263pp, 80pp. color illus., 210x290 mm Price : US\$ 49.50

Textiles of the Daic Peoples of Vietnam.
Author : C Michael Howard
Studies in the Material Cultures of Southeast Asia No.3

Book Details : Textiles of the Daic Peoples of Vietnam is the first thorough survey of the textiles of the peoples in Vietnam who speak Daic languages. It is an important addition to the existing literature on the textiles Tai and other Daic speaking peoples of Southeast Asia.

The Daic Peoples in Vietnam are divided into thirteen official ethnic groups. The largest of these is the Thai ethnic group, which numbers over one million people and includes a number of sub-groups such as the Black Tai, White Tai, Tai Thanh, Tai Muang, and the Tai of Muang Daang. Other groups include the Kadai speaking Laha, Lachi, Co Lao, and Pupeo, and the Tai speaking Cao Lan, Tay, Nung, Bouyei, Zay, Tu Zi, Lao, and Lue. The book provides background on the history and culture of these groups and it discusses their weaving and dress traditions. In addition to numerous black and white photographs this book presents 295 new color photographs illustrating the peoples and their textiles.

Pub: White Lotus Press, Bangkok Year:2002 ISBN:9747534975 (Pb)
Bib : 300pp., 80pp., color illus., 210x290 mm Price : US\$ 49.50

The Politics of Ruins and the Business of Nostalgia
Author : Maurizio Peleggi

This book investigates the theory and practice of heritage conservation in Thailand, focusing in particular on the period from the mid-1970s to the late 1990s. Although the trend towards historic preservation first appeared in Thailand at the end of the nineteenth century and was further promoted by the nationalist regime of the 1940s and 1950s, it has become a major governmental undertaking since 1977, when the first historical park projects were launched. National pride and international awareness of Thailand's cultural heritage have increased considerably in recent times. This monograph questions the commonplace glorification of historic sites as tangible signs of the past glory of the Thai nation. The state-sponsored material and discursive practices that have led to the institutionalization of Thailand's national heritage are examined, along with their contestation by elements of civil society, vis-à-vis the process of political and social change. The book also analyzes the commodification and consumption of heritage sites as tourist attractions, as well as the linkage between the promotional narratives of tourism advertising and the official historical narrative of the Thai nation.

Pub: White Lotus Press, Bangkok Year:2001 ISBN:9747534959 (Pb) Bib : 110pp.,
150x210 mm Price : US\$ 18.50

ABIA : South and Southeast Asian Art and Archaeology Index, Volume Two
Edited by : Ellen M .Raven and Helga I.Lasschuijt

Book Details :Volume two, containing circa 1500 records selected from the annotated bibliographic database on South and Southeast Asian art and archaeology (formerly Annual Bibliography of Indian Archaeology). Compiled by an international team of specialists brought together in a project of The International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) in Leiden. Features all forms of scholarly publications, ranging from

survey works to small but important articles in monographs and journals, published world wide between 1997 and 2001. Subjects include pre-and protohistory, historical archaeology, ancient art history, modern art history, material culture, epigraphy and palaeography, numismatics and sigillography (seals). Covered are South Asia and its culturally related regions (Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Tibet) and Southeast Asia (including related regions in South China and the Pacific). The detailed bibliographic descriptions (which faithfully reproduce the original diacritics), controlled keywords and many elucidating annotations make this reference work into an indispensable guide to recent scholarly work on the prehistory and arts of South/Southeast Asia.

Pub : International Institute of Asian Studies, Leiden Year : 2001 ISBN : 9004124225 Bib : 500pp
Price : US\$ 74.00

Iconography of the Buddhist sculpture of Orissa
Author : E. Thomas Donaldson

Pub: Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts : Abhinav Publications, New Delhi
Year : 2001 ISBN:8170173752 (set); ISBN:8170174066 (v.1); ISBN:8170174074 (v.2)
Bib : 2v ill. (some col.), map, 29cm, Includes bib. ref. and index. Price : US\$ 115.00

In her own right : remembering the artist Karuna Shaha
Author : Tapati Guha-Thakurta

Woman Artist (1921-1996)

Pub: Seagull Books, Calcutta Year : 2001 ISBN:8170461995
Bib : 68pp., ill (some col.), 25cm
Price : US\$ 14.25

Essence of Orissan paintings
Author : Dinanath Pathy

Pub: Harman Pub. House, New Delhi and Working Artists Association, Orissa
Year : 2001 ISBN: 8186622357 120pp, ill. (some col.), 28cm, Includes bib. ref.
Price : US\$ 26.75

Art and Architecture of Nalanda
Author : G.C. Chauley

Much has been written on Nalanda by scholars and historians who have based their studies on the actual archaeological material so far published. Such scholars have also made extensive use of the rich and varied accounts left by foreign travelers, specially Chinese and Tibetan, who had visited the establishment and had occasion to spend considerable time at this place. This book gives details of the development of the Nalanda Mahavihara from its very ancient stage to the period when it has attained its zenith and try to formulate an assessment of the importance of Nalanda in the Indian culture, particularly of cultural and artistic tradition of Buddhism.

Pub: Sundeep Prakashan, New Delhi Year : 2002 ISBN:817574121X
Bib : x+161pp, 23 plates, Appendices, 29cm Price : US\$ 40.00

Temples of Madhya Pradesh : The Paramara Art
Author : Rahman Ali

In the present work an attempt has been made to study the major artistic characteristics of extant Bhumija temples of Madhya Pradesh. The architectural features have been compared with those of the prescribed textual norms. Further the impacts of this popular art tradition of Malwa over the contemporary art of neighbouring regions like Maharashtra and Rajasthan etc. have also been discussed.

It may not be out of place to mention that during the survey of monuments of good number of Brahmanical images were also noticed which are either intact with the original monuments or shifted to different museums. To bring a few of them into the notice of scholars a brief iconographical note was also prepared which has been added with the text as Second Part. It will definitely help the scholars to understand the development of plastic art traditions under the Paramaras who were basically the original patrons of raising Bhumija temples in Malwa.

Pub: Sundeep Prakashan, New Delhi Year : 2002 ISBN:8175741201 Bib :
xx+203pp, 10 figs, 11 plates Price : US\$ 45.00