

**Abteilung für Asiatische und Islamische Kunstgeschichte WS 2019/20**

**Vortrag von Anne Hartig, PhD**  
**Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi**

**Sacred Space Making: Exploring Hindu  
Temple Architecture in Contemporary India**

**Montag, 14.10.2019, Beginn: 18.15 Uhr**

Abteilung für Asiatische und Islamische Kunstgeschichte, Adenauerallee 10, ÜR (EG)

Religion continues to be a powerful institution. This is, for instance, evident from the many new Hindu temples of ever increasing dimensions built rapidly throughout India, and other parts of the world. How has the Hindu temple adjusted to processes of modernization, how have patrons/communities positioned their sacred sites in contemporary discourses and what meanings do these new Hindu temple and their architecture convey? Stressing the significance of the Hindu temple as instrumental in shaping cultural, socio-economic and political ideas of millions of people, the lecture addresses these critical questions by analyzing a number of temples built in Delhi from the beginning of the twentieth century to the present. In addition, it telescopes into the relationships between communities, identity, politics, architecture and the idea of sacred space making that help us to better understand the role and significance of sacred space making within a globalized modern world.

Anne Hartig is an art historian specializing in Indian architecture, religion and culture, traveling and researching South and Southeast Asia for nearly twenty years. Her PhD from the School of Arts and Aesthetics (2018), Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi centers on temple architecture in Delhi, giving new insights into the negotiations and machinations at work in the history of Hindu temple patronage from the early twentieth century to the present. In 2018, as a scholar-in-residence at the Alice Boner Institute in Varanasi she researched modern temples in Varanasi, Sarnath and Kushinagar.

