In the Shadow of the Golden Age

Art and Identity in Asia from Gandhara to the Modern Age

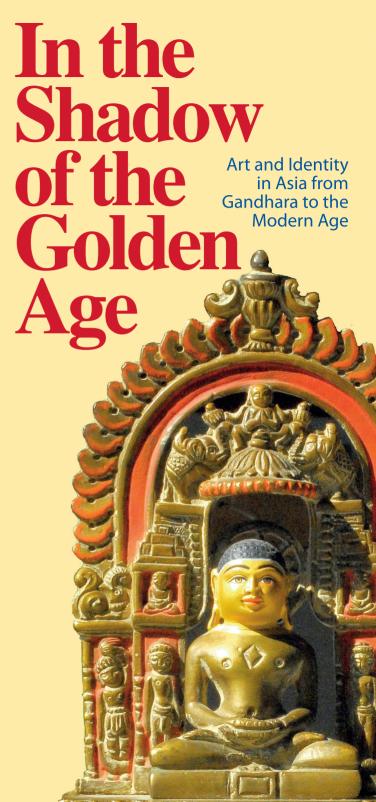
This international conference brings together specialists in the visual arts and humanities working on material from a wide range of periods and regions throughout Asia, the Islamic world and the Western diaspora. Instead of concentrating on the so-called 'high points' and 'golden ages' of art, which have so far stood generally at the centre of art-historical enquiries, this symposium focuses on visual expressions of confrontation with the 'other,' struggle or isolation during times of change. These challenging but artistically fertile periods were marked by intense efforts by communities in search for new identities. Through their art and frequently through the re-use of old symbols in new settings they succeeded in redefining themselves so as to strengthen their religious, cultural or political position. In the history of art, these less investigated phases raise issues, which hold the promise of new significant contributions to the subject.

What happened to Gandharan art after its main phase of flowering came to an end in its traditional heartland? How does Hindu temple architecture react to a majority Christian cultural environment in Goa? In which ways do new rulers and religions, e.g. in medieval South India and at Angkor, relate to the sacred places and icons of previous cultures and religious groups and how do the disposed and dispossessed deal with their loss and react to the new?

The confrontation with the 'other' has been particularly pronounced during periods of colonisation throughout Asia. How did British colonial officials and Indian artists commissioned by them represent the different facets of the empire, how was world art exhibited and interpreted in the West and how were (and are?) categories such as 'masterpiece' or 'golden age' employed to classify and judge art?

A further particularly fertile area of enquiry is the modern age in which many traditions (religious, regal or social) appear to be threatened by globalisation and changes in value. The diverse examples of modern day artistic expressions taken from Arabia, India, Nepal, Tibet and Thailand to be presented during this conference, however, suggest impressive acts of survival and creative adaptation, which enable continuity and the endurance of forms, meanings and practices under new disquises.





	Timetable
	Thursday 13th October 2011 Main building of the University (Hauptgebäude)
16:00-17:00	Registration and tea Location: Senatssaal
17:00-18:30	Keynote address: Prof. Partha Mitter (Sussex and Oxford) The Role of History and Memory in Modernity Location: Festsaal
19:00	Conference dinner for participants
	Friday 14th October 2011 Akademisches Kunstmuseum, lecture theatre
09:30-10:30	Registration
10:30-11:30	Prof. Susan L. Huntington (Columbus) Buddhist Art Through a Modern Lens: A Case of a Mistaken Scholarly Trajectory
	Prof. John C. Huntington (Columbus) Bactro-Gandharan Art Beyond its Homeland
11:30-12:00	Coffee
12:00-13:00	Prof. Ciro Lo Muzio (Rome) The Legacy of Gandhara in Central Asian Painting
	Dr. Petra Rösch (Cologne) Illusionary Narratives: The Deconstruction of the Tang Dynasty as the "Golden Age" of Chan Buddhism in China.
13:00-14:30	Lunch
14:30-15:30	Dr. William A. Southworth (Amsterdam) Iconoclasm and Temple Transformation at Angkor from the 13th to 15th Centuries
	Dr. Tiziana Lorenzetti (Rome) Political and Social Dimension as Reflected in the Medieval Sculptures of South India: Confrontations, Antagonism and Identity
15:30-16:00	Tea
16:00-17:00	Prof. Mallica Kumbera Landrus (Princeton) Trans-Cultural Temples: Identity and Practice in Goa

	Dr. Sarah Shaw (Oxford) Art and Narrative in Changing Conditions: Southern Buddhist Temple Art as an Accommodation of the New and Diverse
17:00-17:30	Drinks
17:30-18:30	Professorial inaugural lecture: Prof. Julia A. B. Hegewald (Bonn) Golden Age or Kali-Yuga?: The Changing Fortunes of Jaina Art and Identity in Karnataka
19:00	Conference dinner for participants
	Saturday 15 th October 2011 Akademisches Kunstmuseum, lecture theatre
09:30-10:30	Dr. Jennifer Howes (London) Indian Company Painting: 1780 to 1820
	Dr. Eva-Maria Troelenberg (Berlin / Florence) The "Golden Age" and the Secession: Approaches to Alterity in Early 20th Century World Art
10:30-11:00	Coffee
11:00-12:30	Prof. Parul Dave Mukherji (Delhi) Who is Afraid of Utopia? Contemporary Indian Artists and their Retakes on "Golden" Age
	Prof. Nalini Balbir (Paris) Old Texts, New Images: Illustrating the Śvetāmbara Jain Āgamas Today
	Prof. Christoph Emmrich (Toronto) Loss, Damage, Repair and Prevention in the Historiography of Newar Religious Artefacts
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:15	Regina Höfer (Bonn) 'Buddha@hotmail' - Contemporary Tibetan Art Goes Global
	Daniel Redlinger (Bonn) Building for the Brothers? Indo-Islamic Citations in the Recent Architecture of South Arabia
	Concluding session
15:15-15:45	Tea
15:45-18:30	Coach to Cologne and visit to

Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum

International Conference 13. - 15. October 2011 **Organisation:** Prof. Dr. Julia A. B. Hegewald (julia.hegewald@uni-bonn.de) Department of Asian and Islamic Art History (AIK), IOA, The University of Bonn

Venues: Akademisches Kunstmuseum Antikensammlung der Universität Bonn Am Hofgarten 21

Universität Bonn - Hauptgebäude Regina-Pacis-Weg, Am Hof 1

Department of Asian and Islamic Art History Adenauerallee 10

Keynote address:

Prof. Partha Mitter (Sussex and Oxford) Thursday 13th October 2011 Festsaal of the University of Bonn

There is no conference fee and no prior registration is required. However, we would be delighted to know if you are planning to attend (aikinfo@uni-bonn.de).

