

# EMBODIED DEPENDENCIES AND FREEDOMS: ARTISTIC COMMUNITIES AND PATRONAGE IN ASIA

VIRTUAL WORKSHOP  
OCTOBER 14–15, 2021  
ONLINE VIA ZOOM

hosts the Cluster of Excellence “Beyond Slavery and Freedom”, which aims to overcome the binary opposition of “slavery versus freedom”. We approach the phenomenon of slavery and other types of strong asymmetrical dependency from methodologically and theoretically distinct perspectives.

This international conference brings together specialist from different disciplines, focusing on Asian artists and their communities. All conduct research on extreme forms of dependency and the freedoms found within these contexts.

The life and practice of traditional Asian artists are governed by a number of different forms of dependence. This can be the financial reliance on sponsors, such as private benefactors or religious institutions. Furthermore, they are bound by religious texts, such as iconographic, iconometric or architectural treatises, dance manuals, the formalized canons of various religious schools or by religious, sectarian, social and gender conventions. On a more basic level, especially architecture is governed by the local climate and depends on the availability of building materials. These and other issues will form the focus of this symposium.

**University of Bonn  
Online via Zoom**

## CONTACT

### Workshop Organizer:

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Please **register** for the virtual conference  
until **October 7, 2021** via [email](#).

We will then send you a specific link for this conference  
so that you can join the ZOOM meeting. Visit our  
[conference website](#) for more information.



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## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021

11:30–11:45 AM (CEST)  
Welcome and Introduction

11:45 AM–12:30 PM - PANEL I:  
Dependence on Rulers, Patrons and Markets  
Chair: Prof. Dr. Julia A. B. Hegewald, BCDSS, University of Bonn

Countering Cerebral Invasions:  
Sculptors Against Dependencies

**Prof. Deepak Kannal**  
(M.S. University of Baroda, Vadodara)  
**Kanika Gupta**  
(Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi)

Female Performance Artists from Tipu Sultan's Court  
under East India Company Rule  
**Dr. Jennifer Howes**  
(Independent Scholar, London)

Indigenous Modernity's in Dependent Princely  
States: Design of Public Places in Baroda

**Prof. Pratyush Shankar**  
(Navrachana University, Vadodara)  
**Snigdha Srivastava**  
(Conservation Architect, India)

12:30–1:00 PM – Discussion

1:00–2:00 PM – Lunch

2:00–2:45 PM – PANEL II:  
Religious and Sectarian Dependencies  
Chair: Sandra Jasmin Schlage, University of Bonn

'Slaves of God': Extreme Religious Dependency in  
Medieval South India (800 –1100 CE)

**Prof. Dr. Tiziana Lorenzetti**  
(International Institute of South Asian Studies,  
Rome)

The Dance of Subaltern Gods: Caste Ideology, and  
Dependency in the Liminal Structure of 'Theyyams' on  
the Malabar Coast, South India

**Jahfar Shareef Pokkanali**  
(BCDSS, University of Bonn)

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021

The Iconography of Power: Patterns of Subjugation  
and Dependency in the Buddhist Tantric Iconography  
of Nepal

**Prof. Dr. Gudrun Bühnemann**  
(The University of Wisconsin-Madison)

2:45–3:15 PM – Discussion

3:15–3:45 PM – Coffee Break

3:45–4:30 PM - PANEL III:  
Social and Gender Dependencies  
Chair: Dr. Jennifer Howes, Independent Scholar,  
London}

Usages and Instrumentalisations of the Sanskrit Term  
'Dāsī' in Pre-Colonial and Colonial South India: The  
Case of *Devadāsīs* and *Rājadāsīs*

**Dr. Tiziana Leucci**  
(CEIAS, EHESS/CNRS; Conservatoire de Musique et  
Danse 'Gabriel Fauré', Les Lilas, Paris)

Xu Wei and the Ghostwriter's Talent  
**Prof. Dr. Peter Sturman**  
(University of California, Santa Barbara)

Avenger, Spectral Mother, Femme Fatale:  
The Haunting of the Female Body in Japanese  
Culture

**Dr. Elisabeth Scherer**  
(Heinrich Heine University, Düsseldorf)

4:30–5:00 PM - Discussion

5:00–5:15 PM – Wrap-Up Day one

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2021

10:00–10:45 AM - PANEL IV: Dependence on Oral or  
Written Traditions, Norms and Conventions  
Chair: Prof. Dr. Pratyush Shankar, Navrachana  
University, Vadodara

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2021

Dependence and Freedom in the Practice and Theory  
of Indian Temple Architecture

**Prof. Dr. Adam Hardy**  
(Welsh School of Architecture, Cardiff University)

Artists' and Conservators' Dependencies in Tibet  
and the Himalayas

**Dr. Amy Heller**  
(University of Bern)

**Dr. Chiara Bellini**  
(University of Northumbria)

Bound by Tradition? An Investigation of the Extreme  
Dependency of Artists on Un-Written Artistic  
Conventions for Dance Imagery in Sculpture and  
Painting

**Sandra Jasmin Schlage**  
(University of Bonn)

10:45–11:15 AM – Discussion

11:15–11:45 AM – Coffee Break

11:45 AM–12:30 PM - PANEL V:  
Dependency on Climate and Resources  
Chair: Prof. Dr. Adam Hardy, Welsh School of  
Architecture, Cardiff University

Climate and Resources Dependencies in the Buddhist  
Art and Architecture Along the Northern Silk Road

**Birgit Angelika Schmidt**  
(Museum for Asian Art and Freie Universität, Berlin)

Temple Architecture in Coastal Karnataka: An  
Interplay of Climatic Dependencies and Artistic  
Freedoms

**Prof. Dr. Julia A.B. Hegewald**  
(BCDSS, University of Bonn)

From New Spain to Jingdezhen: Chinese Export  
Porcelain and its Dependence on Colonial Silver

**Dr. Daniel Suebsman**  
(Museum of East Asian Art, Cologne)

12:30–1:00 PM – Discussion

1:00–1:30 PM Wrap-Up and Final Discussion.