Mondays, 24 September 2018 – 15 July 2019 (over three terms)
11.10 – 15.30

(Each term includes optional gallery talks, commencing at 10.00 and repeated at 15.30)

Discover the art and archaeology of Asia, from the Himalayas and the Indian Subcontinent to the island nations of Southeast Asia. The origins of the ancient religions of Buddhism, Hinduism and Jainism will be explored and their subsequent impact across the region. Temple architecture and sculpture, paintings and manuscripts offer insights to ritual practise and belief in diverse geographical and cultural settings. Artistic innovations in ceramics, textiles, metalwork and lacquer display distinct regional characteristics as well as shared features transmitted through cultural exchange and commerce.

The advent of Islam across the Middle East and its rapid expansion introduced a new set of artistic stimuli, as evidenced in the arts of Mughal India and the material culture of Southeast Asia. The impact of trade, diplomacy and colonialism will be explored, and the lasting artistic legacy of social and political developments which shaped the early modern era.

Course Director
Helen Glaister is a sinologist who specialised in Chinese Art History at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, following time spent in China. Helen has been Course Director at the V&A since 2006 and previously worked at the British Museum. She lectures at SOAS and has taught at Birkbeck College and the British Library. Her current research interests include Chinese Export Porcelain, Qing dynasty decorative arts and the history of collecting Chinese art.

Course Tutors: South Asia
Dr Fiona Buckee is a specialist in Indian Temple Architecture. She has lectured on courses at the British Museum, V&A, Sotheby’s Institute and SOAS where she is currently a Research Associate in the Department of the History of Art and Archaeology. She has published on Tamil temple architecture and the temples of Madhya Pradesh. Her current research interests lie in the analysis and hypothetical reconstruction of ruined temples using detailed reconstructive drawings.

Dr Mehreen Chida-Razvi is a Research Associate in the Department of the History of Art & Archaeology at SOAS, and Assistant Editor for the International Journal of Islamic Architecture. She is a specialist of Mughal South Asia and has lectured and taught courses on Islamic and Indo-Islamic Art at institutions in London and Oxford. She has participated in several documentaries on the Taj Mahal, and has published on Mughal art and architecture.

The Emperor Shah Jahan (1627-58) in 1630, inscribed - A Good Portrait of Me in My 40th Year, Bichitr, Mughal Indian, c 1630
Autumn Term Programme & Dates: Mondays, 24 September – 10 December 2018

South Asia: 500 BC – 1800

This term explores the arts of South Asia from the advent of Buddhism to the Modern Period. The emergence of Buddhism, Hinduism and Jainism will be examined in a range of media from stone sculpture to paintings and manuscripts. Temple architecture, sculpture and murals will provide further insights to religious worship and practice.

The arrival of Islam as a ruling power in the thirteenth century heralded the eventual rise of the Mughal Empire, stimulating a new artistic repertoire and visual culture. Court patronage produced some of the finest and well-known architectural achievements in South Asia. Imperial collections of manuscripts and paintings, textiles, carpets and jewelled arts exemplify the luxuries of court life.

From the temples of South India to the great artistic and military traditions of Rajasthan and the Sikh Kingdoms, the religious and artistic diversity of South Asia will be studied.

24 September

Buddhism in India

10.45 Introduction
11.10 Introduction to Indian Art Fiona Buckee
12.30 Early Indian Buddhism: Pillars, Stupas and ‘Aniconic’ Buddhist Art, 5th century BC-1st century AD Fiona Buckee
14.30 Buddhist Doctrines and Buddhist Art, 1st century – 13th century AD John Clarke

8 October

North Indian Sculpture and Temple Architecture

10.00 Gallery Talk
11.10 North Indian Sculpture, 8th – 13th centuries Doria Tichit
12.30 Temple Ritual and Iconography Doria Tichit
14.30 North Indian Temple Architecture Fiona Buckee
15.30 Gallery Talk

15 October

South Indian Sculpture and Temple Architecture

11.10 Tamil Temple Architecture, 7th – 13th centuries Fiona Buckee
12.30 A Vanishing Heritage: South Indian murals from the 16th – 19th centuries Anna Dallapiccola
14.30 Of Gods and Heroes: South Indian Painted Textiles (Kalamkaris) Anna Dallapiccola

1 October

Hinduism and Iconography

11.10 Hindu Art and Iconography Doria Tichit
14.30 History of Yogas and Yogis James Mallinson

11 October

Jainism in India

11.10 Jain Sculpture Nick Barnard
12.30 Jain Temples and Pilgrimage Hawon Ku
14.30 Jain Paintings Nick Barnard

22 October

Indian Jewellery and Dress

10.00 Gallery Talk
11.10 Indian Textiles and Dress Avalon Fotheringham
12.30 Gemmology and Indian Jewellery Techniques Joanna Whalley
14.30 Indian Jewellery Nick Barnard
15.30 Gallery Talk

5 November

Sikhism and its Arts

11.10 The Sikh Kingdoms Davinder Toor
12.30 From Sword Strikes to Brush Strokes: Part 1 Demonstration with Nidar Singh Nihang
14.30 From Sword Strikes to Brush Strokes: Part 2 Demonstration with Nidar Singh Nihang

12 November

Islam in South Asia: The Sultanates

11.10 Architecture of the Delhi Sultanates Mehrdad Shokoohy
12.30 Architecture of the Deccan Mehrdad Shokoohy
14.30 The Coinage of the Indian Sultanates - Interdisciplinary Insights Shailendra Bhandare

Course Tutor: Southeast Asia
Lesley S Pullen PhD is a Post-Doctoral Research Associate in Asian art history at SOAS, University of London. She has been Tutor of the Southeast Asia course at the V&A since 2015. At SOAS, Lesley has lectured on BA and MA courses, and tutored the Southeast Asia module of the Postgraduate Diploma in Asian Art from 2009 to 2015. She lived in Asia for thirty years, travels to Asia frequently, and collects Asian material art. Her current research focuses on the textiles and ornament on medieval figural sculpture from Northeast India and Southeast Asia.

Course Tutor: Islamic Middle East
Fuchsia Hart is a specialist in Islamic art, with a focus on the arts and architecture of Iran. Having previously worked in the cultural heritage sector in Afghanistan, she is now Iran research assistant at the V&A and is also lecturing on the V&A Arts of Iran short course. Her current research projects look at shrines in Iran and their lustre tilework, and Safavid mosque architecture.

Other Lecturers Include:
Sussan Babaie, Courtauld Institute
Pierre Baptiste, Musée Guimet
Alexandra Green, Curator, British Museum
Jessica Harrison-Hall, Curator, British Museum
Rosie Llewellyn-Jones, Independent Scholar
Malini Roy, Curator, British Library
Mehrdad Shokoohy, Independent Scholar
Contributors from the V&A Curators in the Asia Department: Nick Barnard, John Clarke, Avalon Fotheringham, Divia Patel, Mariam Rosser-Owen, Susan Stronge, Salma Tuqan.
19 November
The Mughal Art of the Book
11.10 The Mughal Court Workshops 1560-1630
Susan Stronge
12.30 Shahjahani Painting Saqib Baburi
14.30 Later Mughal Painting Malini Roy

26 November
Mughal Court Patronage
10.00 Gallery Talk
11.10 Imperial Architecture Mehreen Chida-Razvi
12.30 Carpets and Textiles Steven Cohen
14.30 Jewelled Arts of the Great Mughals Susan Stronge
15.30 Gallery Talk

3 December
Rajput Painting
10.00 Gallery Talk
11.10 Rajasthani Painting Mehreen Chida-Razvi
12.30 Rajasthani Painting Mehreen Chida-Razvi
14.30 Pahari Painting Heather Elgood
15.30 Gallery Talk

10 December
Courtly Culture of the Nawabs
11.10 Courtly Arts of Lucknow Rosie Llewellyn-Jones
12.30 European Influences in Lucknow Rosie Llewellyn-Jones
14.30 Musical Culture of Lucknow Richard Williams

Spring Term Programme & Dates:
Mondays, 7 January – 4 February 2019

South Asia: 1800 – present
Art of Tibet and the Himalayas
The first weeks of this term highlight the connections between South Asia and Europe through colonial intervention, trade and artistic exchange. The rise of the East Indian Companies marked the beginning of a period of intense production particularly in the field of textiles, furniture and interior design. From the twentieth century, arts of the region reflect Eastern and Western influences, more recently indicating global artistic trends.

The second half of the term studies the distinctive but interrelated traditions of Nepal, Kashmir and Tibet, many of which are rooted in Vajrayana or Tantric Buddhism. Focussing initially on Tibet, students will observe the flow of artistic and religious currents throughout the region brought about by trade, political and religious contact. A detailed study of Buddhist sculpture, manuscripts and thangka paintings offer insights to religious practise and belief and its historical development up to the present.

7 January
Nineteenth Century
11.10 Tipu Sultan Susan Stronge
12.30 The Formation of the Indian Collections at the V&A Divia Patel
14.30 Indian Silver Wynyard Wilkinson

14 January
Trade and Commerce
10.00 Gallery Talk
11.10 The East India Company at Home Margot Finn
12.30 The Chintz Trade Rosemary Crill
14.30 The Trade in Woven Air: Muslin and the British East India Company Sonia Ashmore
15.30 Gallery Talk

21 January
Modern and Contemporary Indian Art
11.10 Collecting Contemporary Art and Design at the V&A Divia Patel
12.30 Pahari Painting and the Progressives Zehra Jumabhoy
14.30 The Power of Photography: India Then and Now Divia Patel

28 January
History of Tibet, its Buddhism and its arts
11.10 Early History and Art of Tibet, 7th-9th centuries Christian Luczanits
12.30 An Introduction to Vajrayana Buddhism Sam van Schaik
14.30 Vajrayana Art and Practise in Tibet: 10th – 14th centuries Sam van Schaik

4 February
Painting and Sculpture in Tibet, Nepal and Kashmir
10.00 Gallery Talk
11.10 Tibetan Painting Traditions Amy Heller
12.30 Tibetan Sculpture Amy Heller
14.30 Himalayan Sculpture of Nepal and Kashmir Christian Luczanits
15.30 Gallery Talk

Mondays, 11 February – 25 March 2019
Southeast Asia 500 CE – Present
Comprising the ten present day states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), this region represents a broad and complex sweep of landscapes, cultures and religions. Students will explore the arts and material culture of mainland states including Cambodia, Burma, Thailand, Vietnam and Laos and the island nations of Indonesia, Philippines and Malaysia.

Over the millennia, this area has witnessed the successive arrival of religious beliefs and languages, brought by seafaring animist Austronesians, Indians carrying Hinduism and Buddhism, Chinese pilgrims and Arab traders from the Islamic world. Trade and commerce was instrumental in connecting the countries of Southeast Asia with the great dynasties of China, India and the Arab world. During the colonial period, trading posts established by the East India Companies were pivotal in global trade networks reaching from Europe to the New World.

Temple architecture, sculpture, paintings and manuscripts will be studied highlighting the distinctive regional characteristics of religious practise and belief. Through the study of lacquer, ceramics, textiles and the decorative arts students will discover the visual arts of the region from the past to the present.
11 February
Mainland Southeast Asia
11.10 Introduction to the Landscape and History of Southeast Asia Lesley Pullen
12.30 Khmer Classical Religious Architecture (6th-13th c.): Aspects of its Evolution Pierre Baptiste
14.30 Introduction to the Art of Ancient Champa (6th-15th c.) Pierre Baptiste

12 February
Arts of Vietnam and Burma
11.10 The Evolution of Vietnamese Arts: Bronze to Fine Ceramics Honglien Vu
12.30 Burma: Bagan to the Early Modern Period Alexandra Green
14.30 Burmese: Early Modern to the Present Alexandra Green

18 February
Arts of Vietnam and Burma
11.10 The Evolution of Vietnamese Arts: Bronze to Fine Ceramics Honglien Vu
12.30 Burma: Bagan to the Early Modern Period Alexandra Green
14.30 Burmese: Early Modern to the Present Alexandra Green

19 February
Arts of Vietnam and Burma
11.10 The Evolution of Vietnamese Arts: Bronze to Fine Ceramics Honglien Vu
12.30 Burma: Bagan to the Early Modern Period Alexandra Green
14.30 Burmese: Early Modern to the Present Alexandra Green

25 February
Textiles
11.10 Ikats of Indonesia: From Sumatra to East Indonesia Lesley Pullen
12.30 Arts for Palaces and Temples: Arts of the Bangkok Period Narisa Chakrabongtse
14.30 Thai and Burmese Court Textiles: 19th – 20th century Susan Conway

4 March
Lacquer and Decorative Arts
10.00 Gallery Talk
11.10 Burmese Lacquer John Clarke
12.30 Siamese Court: Royal Tributes through Early Photography Lupt Utama
14.30 Batik Kraton, Batik Jambi and Batik Belanda Lesley Pullen
15.30 Gallery Talk

11 March
Islamic Art in Southeast Asia
11.10 Introduction to Islamic Art of Southeast Asia Annabel Gallop
12.30 Illuminated Islamic Manuscripts from Southeast Asia Annabel Gallop
14.30 Material Culture and the Supernatural Farouk Yahya

18 March
Colonial Art and Culture
11.10 Javanese Sculpture in Museums Lesley Pullen
12.30 The Spanish in the Philippines, Cristina Juan
14.30 Art and Patronage in Colonial Singapore: Painting Photography, Portraiture Daphne Ang

25 March
Ceramics
10.00 Gallery Talk
11.10 Vietnamese Ceramics Jessica Harrison-Hall Lesley Pullen
12.30 Shipwreck Ceramics of Southeast Asia Jessica Harrison-Hall
14.30 Summary of Decorative Elements of Southeast Asian Arts Lesley Pullen
15.30 Gallery Talk

Summer Term Programme & Dates: Mondays, 29 April – 15 July 2019 (with Tuesdays 7 and 28 May)
Islamic Middle East: 650 CE – Present

This term follows the emergence of Islam from the Arabian Peninsula to its swift expansion eastward to the Indian subcontinent and to the Mediterranean in the West. The arts of the region rapidly evolved displaying distinctive new styles and forms; ceramics, metalwork, glass and textiles developed a new visual language embodying a diverse range of regional characteristics. Illustrated manuscripts and books reached unprecedented levels of technical skill and refinement for secular and religious use. Architecture of the palace and mosque provided the backdrop to court life and religious practise.

The political complexity of the Medieval Period was matched by an intense period of artistic production; the invasion of the Seljuks, the Mongols and the Timurids from the East had a major cultural impact. From 1500, the Ottoman and the Safavid Dynasties dominated the Middle East stimulating the production of luxury arts in court ateliers and the commercial sphere.

The influence of Islamic art on European artists and designers, collectors and museums from the nineteenth century to the present indicates the continuing contribution of Islamic art in a global context.

29 April
The Emergence of Islamic Art
10.45 Introduction
11.10 What is Islamic Art? Fuchsia Hart
12.30 Islam and Iconophobia Fuchsia Hart
14.30 Umayyad Architecture and its Decoration Umberto Bongianino

Tuesday 7 May (Bank Holiday Monday 6th May)
The Abbasid Caliphate
10.00 Gallery talk
11.10 Abbasid Quranic Manuscripts Umberto Bongianino
12.30 The Arts of the Eastern Islamic world under the Abbasids Paul Wordsworth
14.30 Ceramics from Iraq to Central Asia in the 9th – 10th centuries Melanie Gibson
15.30 Gallery talk

13 May
The Fatimids and their Contemporaries
11.10 Fatimid Cairo Umberto Bongianino
12.30 Early Islamic Rock Crystal Elise Morero
14.30 The Architecture of Sana’a, Yemen Trevor Marchand

20 May
The Islamic West
10.00 Gallery talk
11.10 The Arts & Architecture of Umayyad Córdoba Claire Anderson
12.30 The Alhambra Péter Nagy
14.30 The Almoravids & Almohads in North Africa Umberto Bongianino
15.30 Gallery Talk
Tuesday 28 May (Bank Holiday Monday 27 May)
The Seljuk Empire
11.10 Nizam al-Mulk and his Buildings
Fuchsia Hart
12.30 The Decorative Arts of Iran under the Seljuks
Fuchsia Hart
14.30 The Islamic Arts of the Book in Konya
Cailah Jackson

24 June
The Safavid Empire
11.10 The Architecture of Safavid Isfahan
Sussan Babaie
12.30 Carpets and Silks from the Safavid Empire
Fuchsia Hart
14.30 Safavid Painting and Drawing
Emily Shovelton

1 July
The Ottoman Empire
11.10 Ottoman Architecture George Manginis
12.30 Ottoman Arts of the Book Gizem Tango
14.30 Ceramics from Ottoman Turkey in the late 15th - early 17th centuries
Melanie Gibson

8 July
The Nineteenth Century
10.00 Gallery talk
11.10 Modern Ottoman Painting Gizem Tango
12.30 Qajar Iran in South Kensington: From Mirza Akbar to 'Ali Muhammad Isfahani
Moya Carey
14.30 John Frederick Lewis and British Orientalist Artists Briony Llewellyn
15.30 Gallery talk

15 July
The Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries
11.10 Modernist Architecture in Baghdad and Tehran
Fuchsia Hart
12.30 Contemporary Ceramics from the Middle East and North Africa
Mariam Rosser-Owen
14.30 Design in the Middle East Salma Tuqan

Certificate Option
The certificate option offers the chance to study the subject in greater depth. It is designed to suit both the returning student and those keen to attempt academic study for the first time. In recent years Certificate students have gone on to further study at, amongst others, the Courtauld Institute, Birkbeck College and Christie’s Education.

Certificate requirements
Up to 15 students will be accepted for the Certificate option. They will be required to:
- Attend at least 75 percent of the seminars
- Submit three object reports of 500 words each – one per term.
- Submit two essays, one of 2,000, the other 4,000 words

Upon satisfactory completion of these conditions, the V&A will award the Certificate. The course tutor is happy to discuss the certificate option with any potential student.

Certificate tutor: Helen Glaister

Course Fees
£1992 per year, £1873 Senior, £1600 Disabled Person/Jobseeker
£845 per term, £794 Senior, £640 Disabled Person/Jobseeker
£75 per day, £70 Senior, £57 Disabled Person/Jobseeker
£410 certificate option

External visits may incur additional costs.
Booking and Further Information

All courses are listed and available to book online at vam.ac.uk/courses from 14 May 2018 at 9am. Our Bookings team are also available by calling 020 7942 2000 from 9.00 – 17.30, Monday – Sunday to take bookings or answer questions.

Subject to availability, tickets to attend an individual term will be made available twelve weeks before the term starts. Day tickets will be made available two weeks before the start of each term.

Please note the full fee applies to V&A Members, patrons, and students. Discounts are available for seniors, jobseekers and disabled people. A carer may accompany a registered disabled course student for free.

Refunds are only given in cases of extenuating circumstances such as illness or other personal difficulty and are not guaranteed. Any refund must be applied for no less than fourteen days after an event. If approved, 90% of the price of the ticket will be refunded. 10% will be retained for administration costs.