



October 8, 2015

Dear SACHI Members:

Thanks to your sincere dedication and interest over the years, September 2015 marks a new milestone for SACHI as the organization completes eighteen years since its initial launch. This would not be possible without your active involvement and unfailing support.

In serving a discerning Bay Area audience, SACHI maintains its intimate character as a small organization committed to creative and enlightened learning. Through dynamic program offerings SACHI strives to engage its audiences in stimulating art and culture discussions that enable new understanding. As regular attendees, you know that adherence to quality is a distinguishing feature of SACHI programs. The year 2014-2015 represents yet another plate of excellent program selections.

In celebrating the spirit of *Dussehra* and *Diwali* festivals, the year began with two renderings in the performing arts tradition: an evening of Indian classical music by distinguished visiting artists, Pandit Vijay Kichlu and Samjukta Biswas, maestros in the lineage of the Agra Gharana style of music, followed by an informed commentary and Q & A; and an illuminating introduction to the *Thyagaraja Ramayana* in a lecture demonstration presented by performing artist, scholar, and leading choreographer, Ananda Shankar Jayanth. In select dance episodes, the artist explored the character of Rama through the vision of the poet saint Thyagaraja, a revered composer of Carnatic music associated with southern Indian states.

Last year's Annual Event, *Gandhi and the Political Enlightenment*, with Prof. Akeel Bilgrami and UC Berkeley Chancellor, Nicholas Dirks represented a highlight attracting a full house of enthusiastic students, faculty, Asian Art Museum and SACHI friends, and members of the community, as the two scholars dwelled on Gandhi, the philosopher, in an engaging conversation, sharing new perspectives and insights.

A book reading on the Kohinoor's journey to England by author and gifted storyteller, Indu Sundaresan from her novel, *The Mountain of Light* kept the audience enthralled as she narrated her story. A second book reading brought together celebrated author Shashi Tharoor and noted anthropologist, Prof. Akhil Gupta, in discussing Tharoor's recent publication, *India Shashtra*, reflecting on the Nation in our time. A film screening of Satyajit Ray's *Samapti*, based on Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore's short fiction celebrated the life and spirit of a dear SACHI friend, late Anindyo Chatterjee.

We explored Sri Lanka as a land of multicultural exchanges in an invigorating discussion with Dr. Osmund Boparachchi, visiting scholar of Buddhist Studies at UC Berkeley. Julia Verzhbinsky, scholar, mathematician, and museum docent gave a fascinating glimpse of the Himalayan mystic, Nicholas Roerich, discussing his art, life, and legacy.

Springtime Melodies, a garden concert offered in an exquisite outdoor setting with vocalist Indrani Mukherjee, proved a memorable occasion. In a different vein, Nirupama Rao, former Ambassador of India to the United States, presented an operatic encounter weaving Thomas Moore's poem and Felicien David's opera in her talk, *Imagined Journeys: Lalla Rookh and Her Story* - a spellbinding magical account set in Kashmir of the story of Aurangzeb's daughter as she journeys to meet the Prince of Bokhara. Prof. Nalini Ghuman led an outstanding conversation with Amb. Rao following the talk.

Photographer artist Annu Matthew brought alive her story of *Living Between Cultures* expressed through her creative expressions in art. The event coincided with the San Jose Museum of Art exhibition, *Postdate: Photography and Inherited History of India*

Two Lahore based events, one with Fulbright scholar at Princeton University, Dr. Nadhra Khan, and the other with Prof. Will Glover, architectural historian with the Univ. of Michigan, presented rare and insightful reflections on the historical city. Both events, one in South Bay, and the second held at UC Berkeley, were received with great enthusiasm and appreciation.

The palate was wide with some exceptional presenters. We hope that you found the events to be rewarding and enjoyable.

A special acknowledgement to Consul General Venkatesan Ashok and Mrs. Usha Ashok for their generous support and participation in facilitating the visit of Dr. Nirupama Rao, former Ambassador of India to the United States.

Our warm appreciation to all members for your generosity in helping SACHI sustain high quality programs. **We thank you for your kind support and encourage all members to renew memberships between October and December each year.**

Please mark your calendar for the 2015 SACHI Annual Meeting and Event scheduled on November 8, 2015. Details of time, place and the agenda are attached.

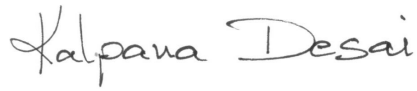
This year's distinguished speaker will be Dr. Forrest McGill, Senior Watis Curator of South and Southeast Asian Art at the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco. He is also the Chief Curator of the Special Exhibition, *The Rama Epic: Hero, Heroine, Ally, Foe*. He will introduce the major upcoming Ramayana themed exhibition through significant artworks, and will be accompanied by renowned UC Berkeley Ramayana scholars, Dr. Robert Goldman and Dr. Sally Sutherland Goldman in a conversation segment that will follow. In a final concluding segment, celebrity theater and dance artist, Dr. Mallika Sarabhai will enact a performance piece from her stage production, *Sita's Daughters*.

We very much look forward to having you at the November 8 Annual Event!

You may also not want to miss the October 17 contemporary art event with artist Jitish Kallat at the Asian Art Museum, to which all are invited.

Details for the SACHI Annual Report, 2014-2015 are attached.

With warmest and sincere thanks.



Kalpana Desai
President, Board of Directors, SACHI

Annual Report for the Year Ended September 26, 2014

The Society for Art & Cultural Heritage of India, a nonprofit, educational and charitable organization based in the San Francisco Bay Area, was formed to serve as a forum for promoting understanding and appreciation of the rich and diverse art, culture and heritage of India.

The Society completed eighteen years on September 26, 2015. A synopsis of the activities of SACHI for the year 2014-2015 follows:

The Society Board of Directors include Kalpana Desai (President and Program Chair), Poornima Kumar (Vice President), Monica Desai-Henderson (Secretary), Sheila Kothari (Treasurer & Membership Chair), Aarti Johri (Website Development), Robert Del Bonta and Betty Alberts. In addition, Prof. Mary-Ann Milford-Lutzker serves as the Special Advisor to the SACHI Board.

SACHI's continuing dedicated membership and generous patron support enable outstanding programs. The SACHI Board expresses great appreciation to all its members and patrons.

To our following sponsors and patrons, a very special note of thanks:

Betty & Bruce Alberts, Shaista Ali, Jasmin & Gagan Arneja, Neera & Ed Baer, Vinita & Ashok Belani, Narpal & Chandra Bhandari, Vrinda & Vasudev Bhandarkar, Lucey Bowen Sites, Atri & Anshu Chatterjee, Rajen Dalal & Linda Burch, Kalpana & Tushit Desai, Raj & Helen Desai, Monica Desai-Henderson & Steve Henderson, Meena D'Souza & Sriram Ramachandran, Mary Hunt, Arvind Iyer, Asha Jadeja, Aarti & Sandeep Johri, Bharti & Pradyot Kansara, Thomas Kailath & Anuradha Luther-Maitra, Ketan & Sheila Kothari, Manish Kothari & Carmen Saura, Lata Krishnan & Ajay Shah, Poornima & Arun Kumar, Prithvi Legha & Shivi Singh, Matra Majmundar & Raj Mashruwala, Kumar & Vijaya Malavalli, Dipti & Rakesh Mathur, Forrest McGill, Greta McKinney, Mahendra Mehta, Yogesh & Smruti Mehta, Mary-Ann Milford-Lutzker, Vinati Mishra, Shakuntala & Bhupendra Patel, Yogini & Mahesh Patel, Nimi & A. Paulraj, Sonya Pelia & Matthew Lutzker, Carl Pope & Shahnaz Taplin, Jaymati & Mahendra Ranchod, Merrill Randol-Sherwin & Stephen Sherwin, Chandana Reddy-Sinha, Louise Russell, Gursharan & Elvira Sidhu, Bipin & Rekha Shah, Anna & James Spudich, Gita & Ashok Vaish and Meena

Vashee. In addition, SACHI is grateful for in-kind contributions by Zarine & Neville Batliwalla for hosting the Indu Sundaresan book reading, and to Indu & Raman Khanna for hosting a garden music concert in a very inviting outdoor setting.

SACHI partners and co-sponsoring organizations include:

Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, Public Programs & Education
Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, Society for Asian Art
Mills College, Department of Art and Art History, Oakland
Mills College Department of Music, Oakland
San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose
Palo Alto Art Center, Palo Alto
Stanford University, Center for South Asia
Stanford University, Department of Religious Studies
Stanford University, Ho Center for Buddhist Studies
UC Berkeley, Office of the Chancellor
UC Berkeley, Institute for South Asia Studies
UC Berkeley, Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies
UC Berkeley, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program, ERG
UC Santa Cruz, Satyajit Ray Film and Study Center
Sikh Foundation International, Palo Alto
India Community Center, Milpitas
Bay Area Drama Company, Peninsula
Consulate General of India, San Francisco

To the leaders of co-sponsoring organizations, SACHI extends warm thanks and appreciation:

Asian Art Museum: Jay Xu, Forrest McGill, Pedro Carvalho, Deborah Clearwaters, Qamar Adamjee, Karin Oen, Allison Wyckoff and Silvia Chang; **Society for Asian Art:** Linda Lei, Nazneen & Ehler Spliedt; **Mills College, Department of Art and Art History:** Mary-Ann Milford-Lutzker; **Mills College Department of Music:** Nalini Ghuman; **San Jose Museum of Art:** Susan Krane; **Palo Alto Art Center:** Karen Kienzle; **Stanford University, Center for South Asia:** Thomas Hansen and Sangeeta Mediratta; **Stanford University, Department of Religious Studies:** Linda Hess; **Stanford University, Ho Center for Buddhist Studies:** Paul Harrison, Carl Bielefeldt, Irene Linn, Tatiana Deogirikar; **UC Berkeley, Office of the Chancellor:** Nicholas Dirks, Jenny Hanson; **UC Berkeley Institute for South Asia Studies:** Lawrence Cohen, Sanchita Saxena, Puneeta Kala; **UC Berkeley Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies:** Robert Goldman, Sally Sutherland Goldman, Munis Faruqui; **UC Berkeley, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program, ERG:** Isha Ray; **UC Santa Cruz, Satyajit Ray Film & Study Center:** Dilip Basu; **Sikh Foundation International:** Narinder Kapany and Sonia Dhama; **India Community Center:** Pragati Grover; **Bay Area Drama Company:** Basab Pradhan and Sindu Singh; **Indian Consulate:** Consul General Venkatesan Ashok & Mrs. Usha Ashok

SACHI PROGRAMS
Oct. 1, 2014 – Sep. 30, 2015

October 2, 2014

An Evening of Indian Ragas

Celebrating the Festivals of Dussebra and Diwali

with Pandit Vijay Kichlu and Samjukta Biswas

Distinguished vocalists of Classical Indian Music

Venue: 1750 Taylor Street, Terrace Lobby, San Francisco

Sponsored by hosts Vinati Mishra and Richard Beleson

Supported by SACHI

November 13, 2014

Thyagaraja Ramayana in Dance

A Lecture Demonstration by Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayanth

Distinguished scholar, India's eminent Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi dance artist, and leading choreographer

Venue: Cummings Art Bldg, Classroom Art 2, Stanford University

Co-Sponsored by SACHI, Dept. of Religious Studies, and

Center for South Asia, Stanford University

November 23, 2014

Annual Meeting Event

Gandhi and the Political Enlightenment by

Dr. Akeel Bilgrami, Sidney Morgenbesser Chair in Philosophy

Professor, Committee on Global Thought

Director, South Asian Institute, Columbia University, New York

Lecture followed by a Conversation between Nicholas Dirks, UC Berkeley Chancellor and scholar of Indian History and Akeel Bilgrami

Venue: Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco

Co-Sponsored by SACHI and the Asian Art Museum

January 11, 2015

Before the Brown Sabib, the imperfect gentleman: An Indian Maharajah at Queen Victoria's court before the British rule of India

A Book Reading on the Kohinoor's journey to England by author and storyteller Indu Sundaresan based on her novel, *The Mountain of Light*

Venue: Zarine & Neville Batliwalla home, Hillsborough

Sponsored by SACHI

February 22, 2015

In Remembrance:

Samapti, A Special Film Screening dedicated to late Anindyo Chatterjee

Produced by Filmmaker Satyajit Ray, and Adapted from Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore's short fiction

Commentaries by Dr. Isha Ray, Associate Professor, UC Berkeley and Dr. Dilip Basu, Founding Director,

UCSC, Satyajit Ray Film and Study Center

Venue: Danforth Lecture Hall, Mills College Art Center, Oakland

Co-Sponsored by SACHI and Department of Art & Art History, Mills College

April 1, 2015

High Calling: Nicholas Roerich and his Search for Shambhala

A Himalayan Mystic's Life, Art, and Legacy by

Julia Verzhbivsky, mathematics and research scholar, and Senior Docent at the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco

Venue: History Bldg. 200, Room 30, Stanford University

Co-Sponsored by SACHI and Dept. of Religious Studies, in association with Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies (CREEES), Tibetan Studies Initiative, and Ho Center for Buddhist Studies, Stanford University

April 5, 2015

A Literary Interlude

Shashi Tharoor, celebrated author, Member of Indian Parliament and Former Under Secretary-General of the United Nations

In Conversation with Prof. Akhil Gupta, noted anthropologist and India scholar and Director, Center for South Asia, Univ. of California, Los Angeles, discussing

Tharoor's latest book, *India Shastra: Reflections on the Nation in our Time*

Venue: India Community Center, Milpitas

Co-Sponsored by SACHI and the India Community Center

April 15, 2015

Sri Lanka: A Land of Multicultural Exchanges by

Dr. Osmund Boparachchi, Numata Visiting Professor of Buddhist Studies, UC Berkeley, and Emeritus Director of Research, French National Center of Scientific Research, Paris

Venue: Home of Vinati Mishra, San Francisco

Sponsored by SACHI

April 19, 2015

Springtime Melodies: Ritu, Rasa, Raga, garden concert by

Indrani Mukherjee, acclaimed international artist of Hindustani Classical Music

Venue: Home of Indu & Raman Khanna, Portola Valley

Sponsored by SACHI

May 3, 2015

Imagined Journeys: Lalla Rookh and Her Story, a Talk by

Dr. Nirupama Rao, former Ambassador of India to the United States and a music and opera connoisseur, actively involved in 'Lalla Rookh' Opera revival

An Illustrated presentation followed by Conversation with Dr. Nalini Ghuman, Associate Professor of Music, Mills College

Venue: Danforth Lecture Hall, Mills College Art Center, Oakland

Co-Sponsored by SACHI and Departments of Music, and Art and Art History at Mills College

May 10, 2015

Living Between Cultures, an Illustrated Talk by

Annu Palakunnathu Matthew

Professor of Art (Photography) and Director of the Center for Humanities, University of Rhode Island, in conjunction with San Jose Museum of Art Special Exhibition

Postdate: Photography and Inherited History of India

Venue: San Jose Museum of Art

Co-Sponsored by SACHI and San Jose Museum of Art

May 31, June 5, and June 6, 2015

Henrik Ibsen's, A Doll's House, An Indian Adaptation

A critical examination of gender stereotypes in 21st century Indian-American setting

Adapted & Directed by: Basab Pradhan

Produced by: Sindu Singh

Venue: Sunnyvale Theater, Sunnyvale

Production staged by Bay Area Drama Company and

Co-Sponsored by Center for South Asia, Stanford, SACHI & others

August 30, 2015

Labore Re-Visited: The City and its Nineteenth Century Guidebook

by Dr. Nadhra Khan, Professor, Art History, Lahore University of Management Sciences, and Visiting US Fulbright Scholar at Princeton University

Venue: India Community Center, Milpitas

Co-Sponsored by SACHI, Sikh Foundation International, and India Community Center

September 25, 2015

Learning from Labore

With Professor Will Glover, Distinguished Architectural Historian and Director, Graduate Studies Program, Dept. of History, University of Michigan

Moderator, Dr. Munis Faruqi, Associate Professor, Dept. of South and Southeast Asia Studies, and Co-Chair, Berkeley Pakistan Initiative, UC Berkeley

Venue: Townsend Center of the Humanities, UC Berkeley

Co-Sponsored by SACHI and Institute of South Asia Studies (ISAS) in association with Dept. of Pakistan Studies, and Dept. of Architecture at the College of Environmental Design, UC Berkeley

Upcoming Fall 2015 SACHI Programs

October 17, 2015

A Conversation with Contemporary Artist Jitish Kallat

Discussing his art practices and the acclaimed curating project, the *Kochi-Muziris Biennale, 2014*

Dr. Karin Oen, Assistant Curator of Contemporary Art at the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco

In Conversation with Mumbai-based artist, Jitish Kallat

Venue: Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco

Co-Sponsored by SACHI and the Asian Art Museum

November 8, 2015

SACHI Annual Event 2015

Rama and Company Come to the Asian

An Introduction to a major upcoming Ramayana themed exhibition

The Rama Epic: Hero, Heroine, Ally, Foe (Oct. 21, 2016-Jan. 15, 2017)

by Dr. Forrest McGill, Wattis Senior Curator of South and Southeast Asian Art, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, and Chief Curator of the Special Exhibition, *The Rama Epic*

Presentation followed by a Conversation with renowned UC Berkeley Ramayana scholars, Dr. Robert Goldman and Dr. Sally Sutherland Goldman and Dr. Forrest McGill

A concluding piece presented by celebrated theater and dance artist, Dr. Mallika Sarabhai. She will enact a segment from her stage production *Sita's Daughters*.