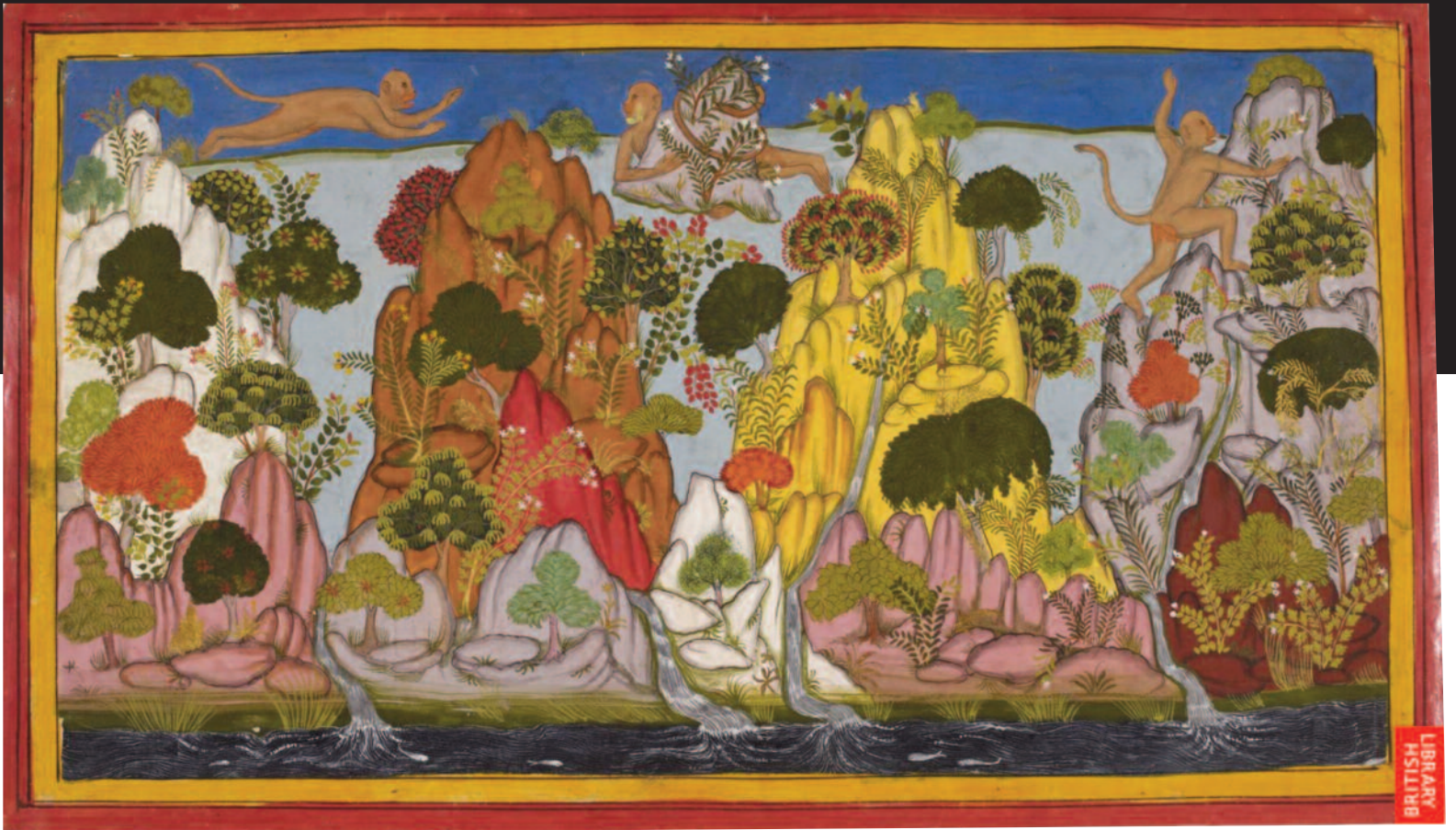


# SACHI 2015 Annual Event



*Hanuman flies to the Himalayas for magical herbs*, page from the Mewar Ramayana, 1649–1653, by Sahibdin (Indian, active approx. 1625–1660). Opaque watercolors on paper. *The British Library*, Add. MS 15297(1) f.100r.

*SACHI and the Asian Art Museum  
Invite you to Join  
A Special Ramayana themed Event*

## Rama and Company Come to the Asian

**An Introduction to a Major Upcoming Exhibition on the Ramayana by**

Dr. Forrest McGill, Wattis Senior Curator of South and Southeast Asian Art at the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, and Chief Curator of *The Rama Epic: Hero, Heroine, Ally, Foe*

An Introduction will be followed by a Conversation with Distinguished Ramayana scholars, Dr. Robert Goldman, Dr. Sally Sutherland Goldman, and Dr. Forrest McGill

In a concluding piece, Visiting scholar, performing artist, and renowned theater personality Dr. Mallika Sarabhai will enact a segment from her stage production, *Sita's Daughters*.

**Sunday  
November 8, 2015  
2:00 – 4:00 PM**

**Samsung Hall  
Asian Art Museum  
200 Larkin Street  
San Francisco**

Free after Museum Admission;  
RSVP [info@sachi.org](mailto:info@sachi.org);  
Tel 650-918-6335

Please join us for a Reception in the Loggia following the event

The Ramayana Event will follow the 1.15 PM SACHI Annual Meeting to be held in Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum

The Rama Epic's hundreds of episodes range from ecstatic to desolate, majestic to intimate, sorrowful to uproarious. Every requisite for a successful Hollywood movie series—or masterpiece of world literature—is there: palace intrigues, divided loyalties, sex, high-minded philosophical and ethical discussions, battles with monkeys and bears, loving devotion and devastating betrayal, spying, psy-ops, magic weapons, and demons of every description.

The Asian Art Museum's major exhibition *The Rama Epic: Hero, Heroine, Ally, Foe* (October 21, 2016–January 15, 2017) highlights 130 splendid paintings, sculptures, and performing arts objects made over 1500 years in India, Southeast Asia, and the West. These works are being brought from museums in Europe, the UK, and around the US to illuminate the personalities and characters, trials and triumphs of the four main characters, Rama, Sita, Hanuman, and Ravana. It will be the largest and most important exhibition on the Rama Epic ever staged in the US.

**Part 1 | 60 minutes**

### *The Rama Epic: Hero, Heroine, Ally, Foe*

Forrest McGill will describe the exhibition's themes and approaches and illustrate some of the most significant artworks. The introduction will be followed by a conversation with two renowned Ramayana scholars from UC Berkeley, Dr. Robert P. Goldman and Dr. Sally J. Sutherland Goldman, together with Dr. Forrest McGill.

*Q & A follows*

Shadow puppet of the demon king Ravana, approx. 1875–1925. India; probably Andhra Pradesh state. Hide with pigments. Courtesy of Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, Gift of Joyce Roy, 2013.40. Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.



**Part 2 | 25 minutes**

### **A Performance Excerpt from stage production, *Sita's Daughters***

Written by: Mallika Sarabhai and John Martin | Directed by: John Martin | Choreography: Mallika Sarabhai



In a short Dance and Storytelling Performance, classical dancer and international theater artist, Mallika Sarabhai, will introduce the audience to some of India's bravest women of yesterday and today who refused to yield to the pressures around them, and who questioned the world and its values. They are Sitas, who would not submit to the tests and trials of doubting men.

*A Commentary and Q & A follows.*



**Dr. Forrest McGill**, Wattis Senior Curator of South and Southeast Asian Art, has been a curator at the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, for over fifteen years. He is the organizing curator of the major 2016 exhibition "The Rama Epic: Hero, Heroine, Ally, Foe." Other recent exhibitions of which he has been organizer or co-organizer are last year's "Gorgeous" (2014), and the "Emerald Cities: Arts of Siam and Burma, 1775-1950." (2009). He is also curator of the exhibition, "The Kingdom of Siam: The Art of Central Thailand, 1350-1800" (2005). In addition to organizing major exhibitions, Dr. McGill is the Editor and contributing author for scholarly catalogues accompanying the exhibitions, "The Kingdom of Siam", "Emerald Cities", and soon to be published, "The Rama Epic".



**Dr. Robert Goldman** is the William and Catherine Magistretti Distinguished Professor of Sanskrit at the University of California at Berkeley. He is the General Editor and a principal translator of the Vālmīki Rāmāyaṇa Translation Project. Professor Goldman's areas of interest are the Sanskrit language and Indian epic and literary studies. He is the author of numerous scholarly publications. He has been the recipient of a number of awards and honors including a Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship and election as a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was the recipient of the Certificate of Honour for Sanskrit (International) awarded by His Excellency the President of India in 2013.

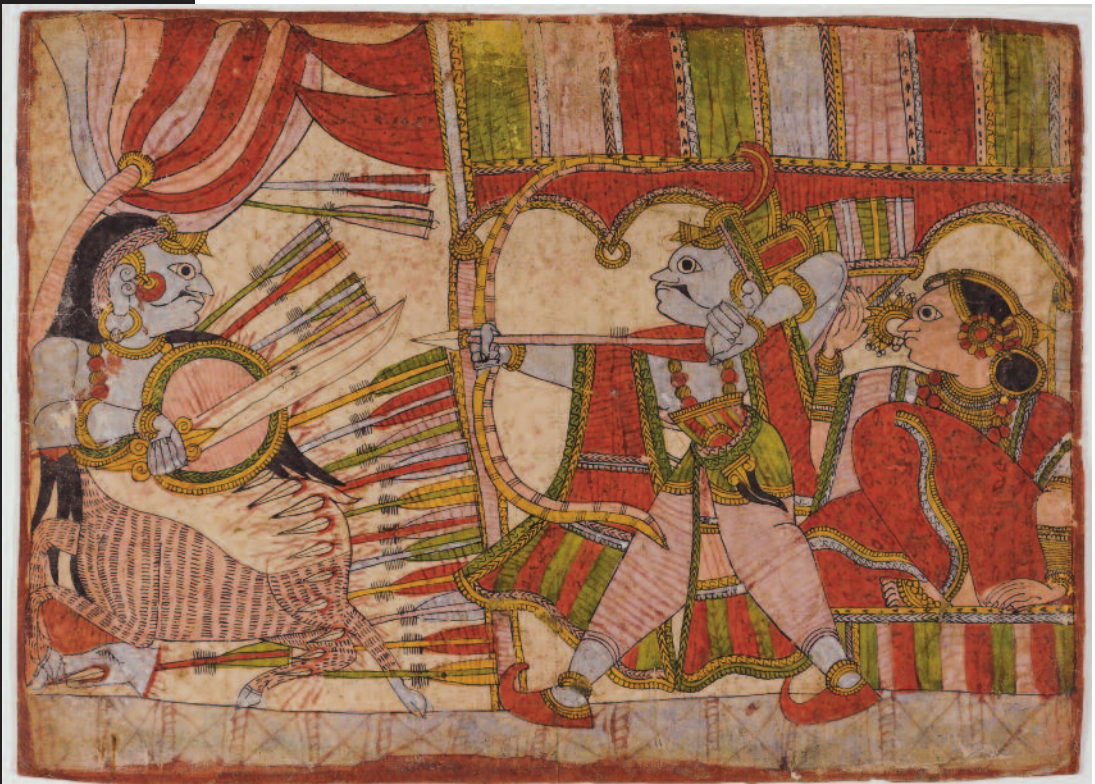


**Dr. Sally Sutherland Goldman** is a Senior Lecturer with the Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies at the University of California at Berkeley. She serves as the Associate Editor for the Vālmīki Rāmāyaṇa Translation Project since 1980. She was a Visiting Professor at the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi in 2010-2011 teaching a course in Epic History and the Indian Nation. In addition to scholarly publications, she is the recipient of a Distinguished Teaching Award at UC Berkeley (2012), Sarah Kailath Fellowship in Indian Studies (1996-97), and American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Fellowship (1991-92).



**Dr. Mallika Sarabhai** is one of India's leading choreographers and dancers, performing both classical and contemporary works. She leads the prestigious Darpana Academy of Performing Arts, based in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, specializing in the *Bharatanatyam* and *Kuchipudi* dance forms. She is a pioneer in using dance and the arts for social change. She is also a writer, publisher, actor, producer and anchorwoman, who founded a TV production company engaged in activist programming. She runs Mapin, a publisher of books on art and design. Best known internationally for playing the lead character, Draupadi, in Peter Brook's *Mahabharata* in the mid-1980s, she spent five years performing in venues around the world.

In the mid-1990s, Dr. Sarabhai started developing her own contemporary dance vocabulary, creating short and full-length works which have been presented in North America, Scotland, Singapore, China and Australia, as well as in India.



Rama slays the Golden Deer, approx. 1830–1900. India; Paithan, Maharashtra state. Opaque watercolor on paper. From the Collection of Gursharan S. and Elvira Sidhu.



## SACHI

Society for Art & Cultural Heritage of India  
155 15th Ave, San Francisco, CA 94118  
415.386.3491 • www.sachi.org



### Acknowledgements:

SACHI extends very special thanks to Ms. Asha Jadeja for generous support and contribution towards the Annual Event.

A special acknowledgement to program sponsors Betty & Bruce Alberts, Chandra & Narpat Bhandari, Sheila & Ketan Kothari, Shivi Singh & Prithvi Legha, and Gita & Ashok Vaish for enthusiastic support.