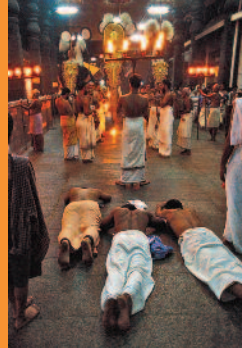


SACHI, The Society for Art & Cultural Heritage of India and The Palo Alto Art Center
present

HEAVEN ON EARTH: THE UNIVERSE OF KERALA'S GURUVAYUR TEMPLE

by Pepita Seth



SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2010, 11:00 A.M.

Free Admission and Open To The Public

Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303



**HEAVEN ON EARTH:
THE UNIVERSE OF KERALA'S GURUVAYUR TEMPLE**
by Pepita Seth

For over a thousand years Hindu pilgrims have swarmed into the sacred precincts of Kerala's Guruvayur Temple to seek the blessings of Lord Krishna, known locally as Guruvayurappan. According to myth the sacred idol, believed to have been worshipped by Lord Vishnu, was installed soon after the death of Krishna. It is now the sacred core of one of India's most important temples, a temple renowned for the unbroken sanctity of rituals performed by hereditary priests, the Namboodiri Brahmins. Their links with the temple's divine origins ensure that its unique customs are unceasingly adhered to.

The talk will reveal the complex heart of the temple, chronicling its myth and history, describing its rituals and beliefs, its traditional style of management, its elephants, its festivals and remarkable patronage of traditional art forms.

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1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303
Tel. 650.329.2366**

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SACHI extends appreciation to
Poornima & Arun Kumar,
Betty Alberts, and Louise Russell
for sponsoring this special event.



www.cityofpaloalto.org/artcenter
www.sachi.org

For directions call 650.329.2366
For inquiries call 650.918.6335

About the speaker:

Pepita Seth was born in London and grew up in Suffolk. She started her career editing British and American documentaries and feature films. The chance discovery of her great-grandfather's 1857 diary inspired her to make her first visit to India. In 1972 she returned to Kerala, India where she now lives. Driven by her passion and respect for the region's culture and traditions, Seth began seriously photographing and writing about the rituals of Kerala's Hindus. In 1981, she received official permission to enter Kerala's temples—including Guruvayur Temple.

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