

SACHI

Society for Art & Cultural Heritage of India

Invites You to Join in a Celebration of Krishna



Making the Desert Bloom | Paintings of Nathdwara

by Scholar and Art Historian Kay Talwar

In a Free Webinar
Presentation

Open to the Public

Sunday
October 4, 2020
11 AM - 12 Noon

Please register using this
[free webinar link](#).

An email confirmation will follow
your registration.



Shri Nathji, Anil Relia Collection, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India



The High Priest Govardhanlalji,
Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, 2008.32

Nathdwara, located in the Aravalli Hills of Rajasthan, is home to Shrinathji, a 15th century manifestation of the child god Krishna, holding up Mount Govardhan. Since the establishment of the *haveli* (temple mansion) in 1671, artists have flocked to the sacred town. Their painted cloth hangings adorn the walls where Shrinathji dwells, and their paintings provide icons for the pilgrimage trade. Krishna lives in the artists' everyday lives permeating their thoughts and guiding their brushes.

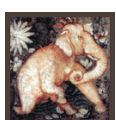
In an illustrated presentation, *Making the Desert Bloom*, Kay Talwar will introduce the history and philosophy of a devotional sect, the *Pushtimarg*, which inspired a distinctive tradition of paintings in adoration of Krishna. She will discuss the stylistic development

of this historic practice, and explore the Golden Age of Nathdwara during the time of its spiritual leader and head priest, *Tilkayat* Govardhanlalji (1862-1934), a legendary patron and connoisseur of the arts.

Kay Talwar is an independent scholar, steeped in the rich history of paintings from Nathdwara. She has co-authored with Kalyan Krishna *Indian Pigment Paintings on Cloth* for the Calico Museum of Textiles in Ahmedabad, and *In Adoration of Krishna: Pichhwais for Shrinathji* for the TAPI Collection, Surat. She is completing a third volume for a major private collection in India.

For many years Kay has been involved in the Indian community of Los Angeles, promoting and supporting a diverse range of visual and performing arts of India. She served as Chairman of the Southern Asian Art Council at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art for six years.

Talwar holds an M.A. in Art History from the University of Michigan.



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