

25
YEARS
SACHI

SACHI's 25th Anniversary CELEBRATION



Jali screen, c. 1925, Shangri-la (Doris Duke Museum), Honolulu.

“Jali” is the Indian term for a perforated stone or latticed screen, an exquisitely carved feature of Mughal architecture. Usually crafted from sandstone or marble, jalis shape the atmosphere of sacred spaces, augment the grandeur of palaces, provide protection and offer privacy within courtly settings. The ornamental patterns of Mughal jali screens draw on the compositional rhythms of arabesques and geometry to create extraordinary visual effects with filtered light in interior and exterior spaces.

This talk will present the story and legacy of Mughal jalis told from the viewpoint of their symbolic meanings and stylistic evolution under the dynamic patrons of the time. Central figures of the Mughal age will include the saint Muhammad Ghaus whose monumental tomb at Gwalior is a vision of dappled light in keeping with his mystical Sufi order; empress Nur Jahan and her innovative tomb for her parents at Agra; and Shah Jahan who transformed the jali style from the language of celestial geometry into organic gardens of paradisiacal inspiration. Modern dimensions of jali patronage will be explored - including by Americans such as Doris Duke and Stuart Cary Welch, and contemporary artists who reclaimed the style in new ways. Little-known sites as well as famous monuments will be presented with new photography.

Agra Fort, 17th century



Society for Art & Cultural Heritage of India
2022 ANNUAL EVENT

*You are Invited to Join
SACHI's 25th Anniversary Celebration*

With Distinguished Scholar

Dr. Navina Haidar

Curator in Charge, Dept. of Islamic Art
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

In a live, in-person sublime presentation

***Jali: Lattice of 'divine light' in
Mughal architecture and its legacy***

Co-Sponsored by the Asian Art Museum, SF

Sunday, November 13 ♦ 2:00 PM

Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum

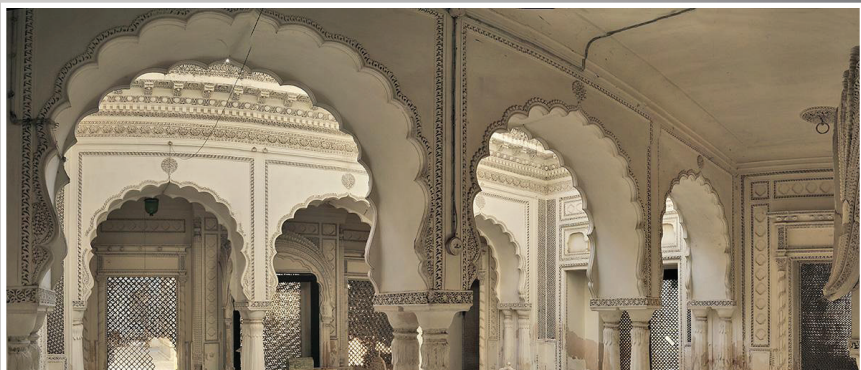
Open and Free to the Public after Museum admission

RSVP: info@sachi.org; Tel: 510-909-5276



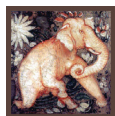
Navina Najat Haidar is Nasser Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah Curator in Charge of the Department of Islamic Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The exhibitions she curated and organized at the Met in recent years include: *Workshop and Legacy: Stanley William Hayter, Krishna Reddy, Zarina Hashmi* (2016); *Art of India's Deccan Sultans; 1500-1700, Opulence and Fantasy* (2015); *Treasures from India; Gems and Jewels in the Al-Thani collection* (2014). Navina was involved in the planning of the permanent galleries for Islamic Art, which opened in 2011, and is currently working on a series of new installations to mark their tenth anniversary.

Her future projects include an exhibition of the Howard Hodgkin collection of Indian painting; an exhibition on the age of the Mughal emperor Jahangir; and a book on the pierced window screen (*jali*) in Indo-Islamic architecture (forthcoming 2022). Navina is author and editor of several exhibition catalogues, scholarly volumes and articles. She is a visiting professor at NCBS/TIFR, Bangalore.



Paigah Tombs, Hyderabad, 18th-19th centuries

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