Opulence and fantasy characterize the art of India’s Deccan courts during the rule of its sultans in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The diamond-rich region attracted artists, poets, writers, and traders from all over the world—including Iran, Turkey, Africa, and Europe—who were drawn to the Shi’a culture and material splendor of the courts. Under their mixed influence, captivating art styles of otherworldly charm evolved.

This exhibition brings together some two hundred of the finest works from major international, private, and royal collections. Featuring many remarkable loans from India, the exhibition—which is the most comprehensive museum presentation on this subject to date—explores the unmistakable character of classical Deccani art in various media: poetic lyricism in painting, lively creations in metalwork, and a distinguished tradition of textile production.
SUNDAY AT THE MET

Sultans of Deccan India, 1500–1700: Opulence and Fantasy
Sunday, April 26, 3:00
The Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium

The history and culture of Hyderabad is celebrated with a lecture by author William Dalrymple and an original performance by Preeti Vasudevan and her dance company Thresh inspired by the life of Deccan poetess Mah Laqa Bai Chanda.

This Sunday at the Met is made possible by the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.

FRIDAY FOCUS PROGRAMS

Friday Focus Conversation—In the Footsteps of India's Deccan Sultans: A Photographic Journey
Friday, May 8, 4:00
Bonnie J. Sacerdote Lecture Hall, Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education

Conversation with Antonio Martinelli, photographer, and Navina Najat Haidar, Curator, Department of Islamic Art, MMA

Friday Focus—The Architectural Setting: Palaces, Mosques, and Tombs of the Deccan
Friday, May 15, 4:00
Bonnie J. Sacerdote Lecture Hall
Presentation by George Michell, independent scholar.

This lecture is made possible by Benjamin and Barbara Zucker.

SYMPOSIUM

Past and Future: Art and Preservation in the Deccan
Monday, May 11, 10:30–4:30
Tuesday, May 12, 10:30–5:00
The Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium

Curators and scholars explore issues relating to the exhibition. Free with Museum admission; reservations and tickets are not required.

Consult the online calendar at www.metmuseum.org/events for the complete schedule.

The symposium is made possible by H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Abdullah Al-Thani.

Assistive listening devices are available for all programs listed above.

GALLERY PROGRAMS

Exhibition Tours
Explore works of art created in the Deccan plateau of south-central India and learn about the unmistakable character of classical Deccani art in various media. Space is limited; first come, first served. Stickers distributed 20 minutes prior at exhibition entrance, Gallery 199.

Friday, May 1, 10:30
Saturday, May 30, 10:30
Tuesday, June 16, 10:30
Saturday, July 11, 10:30

Navina Najat Haidar, Curator, Department of Islamic Art, MMA; Rachel Parikh, Andrew W. Mellon Curatorial Research Fellow, MMA; and Courtney Stewart, Senior Research Assistant, Department of Islamic Art, MMA

Assistive listening devices are available for exhibition tours.

MetFridays Gallery Event
Celebrate India!
Friday, June 19, 6:30–8:00
Gallery 450, Patti Cadby Birch Gallery

Explore the senses and chart your own path through the exhibition and permanent collection as you enjoy interactive, drop-in experiences with art.

This gallery event is made possible by the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art, Peter Louis and Chandru Ramchandani, and The Persepolis Foundation.

FESTIVAL FOR ALL AGES

Senses of Springtime: Celebrate India!
Sunday, May 17, 1:00–5:00
Museum-wide

Immerse yourself in many different sights and sounds from the Islamic world and India! Experience performances, storytelling, a scent demonstration, artist-led workshops, and other interactive gallery activities. See the exhibition and experience architecture in 3D with the Children’s Museum of Manhattan.

Senses of Springtime: Celebrate India! is made possible by the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art, Peter Louis and Chandru Ramchandani, the Great Circle Foundation, and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation. It is presented by the Museum’s Multicultural Audience Development Initiative and the Education Department in consultation with Cool Culture and the Indo-American Arts Council.

www.metmuseum.org/events
FAMILY PROGRAMS

How Did They Do That? (for all ages)
Deccani Miniature Paintings
Saturday, May 9, 1:00–4:00
Sunday, May 10, 1:00–4:00
Gallery 463
Peek at technique and learn—through handling tools and materials—how works of art were created.
This program takes place in the permanent collection galleries.

STUDIO PROGRAMS

Sunday Studio (for all ages)
Tiny Paintings
Sunday, May 3, 1:00–4:00
Gallery 463
Sunday, May 17, 1:00–5:00
Gallery 462, Sharmin and Bijan Mossavar-Rahmani Gallery
Try your hand at creating works of art in the galleries. Focus on a different art form each session with family-friendly activities led by an artist. Drop in; art supplies provided.
This program takes place in the permanent collection galleries.

Studio Workshop (for adults)
Metal and Surface: Jewelry Design
Saturday, June 6, 10:30–4:30
Fee: $95 for the one-session workshop (includes Museum admission and materials); limited student discounts available
Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education
Instructor: Tam Tran, designer and metalsmith
Work with color, texture, and pattern inspired by the exhibition. Explore the art of designing with ephemera such as foil, decorative paper, and fabric. Learn about surface treatments such as metal texturizing and combine them with collage techniques used in jewelry making. Then use your new skills to create and embellish a pendant, cuff, or statement necklace.
Space is limited. To register, visit www.metmuseum.org/artmaking or purchase tickets at the Great Hall box office (see last page for hours). Registration ends at noon on Tuesday, June 2.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR VISITORS WITH DISABILITIES

Seeing Through Drawing—Sultans of Deccan India
Saturday, June 13, 11:00–1:00
Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education
For adults who are blind or partially sighted. Be inspired by the Museum’s collection and the exhibition and learn innovative drawing techniques in this workshop that includes experimentation with materials, verbal description, and creative response to works of art.

Met Escapes—Gallery Tour
Wednesday, June 17, 2:00–3:30
Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education
For individual visitors with dementia and their care partners.

Discoveries—Sensational India
Sunday, June 21
11:00–12:30, for ages 5–17
2:00–3:30, for ages 18 and above
Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education
This workshop is for children and adults with learning or developmental disabilities and those on the autism spectrum, along with accompanying friends and family members. It includes a gallery tour and an art activity.

The Access programs on this page are free, but registration is required. Please call (212) 650-2010 or email access@metmuseum.org.

Large-Print Labels
Label booklets are available at the entrance to the exhibition.

Audio Guide
Free for visitors who are hard of hearing, Deaf, blind, or partially sighted. Audio Guide devices have volume controls and headsets. Neck loops for hearing aids with T-switches are available upon request. Regular and large-print Audio Guide scripts are also available upon request.

www.metmuseum.org/events
SERVICES FOR VISITORS WITH DISABILITIES (cont.)

Other Services
The Museum is committed to serving all audiences. Please call (212) 650-2010 or email access@metmuseum.org about programs and services, including Sign Language–interpreted programs, Verbal Imaging Tours, the Touch Collection, and other programs.

AUDIO GUIDE
Hear curators discuss the extraordinary artistic traditions of the Deccan sultanates, and discover the lyrical qualities found in the region’s painting, metalwork, textiles, and decorative arts.


PUBLICATION

Sultans of Deccan India, 1500–1700: Opulence and Fantasy
Navina Najat Haidar and Marika Sardar
The first book to fully explore the history and legacy of the ruling kingdoms of south-central India, Sultans of Deccan India elucidates the predominant themes in Deccani art with fresh insights and new scholarship. Featuring some two hundred of the finest works from the Deccan sultanates, as well as spectacular site photographs and informative maps, this catalogue provides the most comprehensive examination of Deccan art to date.

384 pages, over 360 color illustrations. Hardcover: (80026841) $65.00 Available from The Metropolitan Museum of Art Store and online at store.metmuseum.org.

Sultans of Deccan India, 1500–1700: Opulence and Fantasy is on view at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in Gallery 199, from April 20 through July 26, 2015.

The exhibition is made possible by the Gail and Parker Gilbert Fund, the Placido Arango Fund, the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and Cynthia Hazen Polsky and Leon B. Polsky. It is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

The education programs are made possible by the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art, and the Deccan Heritage Foundation.

The catalogue is made possible by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, the Doris Duke Fund for Publications, and Shubha and Prahlad Bubbar.


Family Programs are made possible by Uris Brothers Foundation Endowment, The Aronson Family Foundation, Pat and John Rosenwald Fund, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin H. Schein, Joan E. Weberman, Epstein Teicher Philanthropies, and The Ducommun and Gross Family Foundation.

For ticketed programs, visit www.metmuseum.org/tickets or call (212) 570-3949, daily, 9:00–9:00. You may also visit the Great Hall box office, Monday–Saturday, 11:00–3:30.

www.metmuseum.org/events