



## SACHI Celebrates 15 Years

October 1, 2012

Dear SACHI Members:

This year SACHI celebrates a major milestone - fifteen years of presenting quality programs in Indian art, culture and heritage! We could not have reached this 15-year landmark without your inspiring support, dedication, and faith in SACHI's ability to deliver innovative and world-class programming. Many thanks, also, to a committed group of individuals who give generously of their time to bring creative programs to the Bay Area community.

Our valued and trusted partners in the Bay Area include major cultural institutions such as the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, Stanford University, the Palo Alto Art Center, UC Berkeley, Mills College, and more. Each of these alliances and cultivated friendships with both institutional and community leaders enable us to bring to the Bay Area unique cutting edge programs with renowned artists, performers and distinguished scholars.

In this past year, SACHI presented a variety of outstanding programs: a number of special events were designed to complement the spectacular Asian Art Museum exhibition, *Maharaja: The Splendor of India's Royal Courts*. An engaging and enlightening conversation on *The Padmanabhaswamy Temple Treasures and the Royal Family of Travancore* with Prof. Vidya Dehejia set the stage for a series of wonderful programs to follow. SOAS scholar Sue Ollemans delighted an audience with the *Magic of India's Jewels*, followed with an appearance by illustrator and contemporary artist Sanjay Patel, who swept the audience with his wit, intellect, and charm. The SACHI Annual Event revolved around *Merchant Ivory film screenings* with an enriching commentary by Prof. Nalini Ghuman.

The highlight event of the year was a *Thumri-Kathak music and dance performance* from the courts of North India. The rich narration-cum-performance by visiting artists Dhanashree Pandit-Rai and Keka Sinha had the audience enthralled, providing a social context to an era of entertainment during the reign of the Maharajas. Author William Dalrymple held a captivated audience at UC Berkeley as he read and narrated from his book, *The Last Mughal*, combined with Sufi renderings of music by Vidya Shah. A daylong *Maharaja Symposium* with four distinguished scholars was followed by a visit from the Royal Travancore family. Gouri Parvathi Bayi, niece of the reigning Maharaja, provided an illuminating background on Travancore history.

The closing of the Maharaja exhibition was marked by a special SACHI celebration lunch honoring Asian Art Museum leaders and staff for their untiring efforts in bringing a groundbreaking Bay Area show.

In addition, SACHI celebrated *Indus Heritage Day* family activities with the India Community Centre in Milpitas. Indus scholar, Prof. Mark Kenoyer served as the keynote speaker. An Indian altar showcasing connections between life and afterlife became the focus of attention at the *Palo Alto Art Center Day of the Dead festivities*. Artists Rati Mehrotra and Meena Desai drew a lot of community

interest and queries from a lively neighborhood audience. A very special December holiday event led by Dr. Forrest McGill provided a high note in exploring interior design aesthetics of turn-of-the-century artist designer Lockwood de Forest. The latter, influenced by Indian style furnishings, provided a brilliant interior architecture design to an early twentieth century East Bay home. A specially planned field trip to view the remarkable home interiors in the company of the host was a very memorable encounter. A final closing fall program showcased a rural Punjab setting in the award winning film, *Alms for a Blind Horse*, screened at the 3rd i South Asian Film Festival. It was a full calendar of innovative programs!

The variety of events captured the interest of every age group, transcended ethnic barriers, and aroused community interest to new levels. Significant attention to creative programming combined learning and education, enhancing awareness of Indian art and culture in engaging and dynamic ways. Through many role model and exemplary programs SACHI serves the community with a keen and sensitive eye, providing a value added resource in bringing consciousness to India's timeless, and yet ever evolving artistic and cultural landscape.

Please continue to be an active supporter of SACHI. It needs your sincere dedication and generous contribution as SACHI matures to new heights, infusing the highest levels of professionalism to its Bay Area programs. **As part of the 15-year campaign drive, SACHI would like to raise \$15,000 to enable us to expand our outreach with greater effectiveness.** We are actively seeking contributions towards this goal, and would greatly appreciate your support.

We thank you, as always, for renewing your membership and for considering upgrading your contribution. Your generosity helps SACHI to sustain high quality programs. All contributions and membership renewals are fully tax-deductible, directly benefiting the quality of programs. We also encourage you to be our spokesperson in introducing and bringing new friends to SACHI.

The SACHI Annual Report for the year 2011-2012 is attached. We hope you have enjoyed your association with SACHI. We thank you generously for your support and participation.

**Please mark your calendars for the upcoming SACHI Annual Meeting on November 3 and a special anniversary event celebrating 15 years with a discussion on Raja Ravi Varma, India's first modern artist.** Also planned is a dance film screening on *The World of Alarmel Valli*, India's distinguished Bharatnatyam dancer. The details of time, venue and agenda are attached. We very much look forward to seeing you then.

With warmest thanks,



Sincerely,  
Mary Ann Milford-Lutzker

President, Board of Directors, SACHI

## Annual Report for the Year Ended September 26, 2012

The Society for Art and Cultural Heritage of India, a nonprofit, educational and charitable organization based in the San Francisco Bay Area, was formed to serve as a forum for promoting understanding and appreciation of the richness and diversity of the art, culture and heritage of India.

The Society completed fifteen years on September 26, 2012. A synopsis of the activities of SACHI for the year 2011-2012 follows:

The Society Board of Directors include Mary-Ann Milford-Lutzker (President), Nazneen Spliedt, (Secretary), Sheila Kothari, (Treasurer & Membership Chair), Betty Alberts, Neera Baer, Robert Del Bonta, Priya Kamani, and Gita Vaish. In addition, SACHI member Kalpana Desai led SACHI programming.

SACHI has a dedicated membership circle. Numerous SACHI patrons generously sponsor outstanding programs. The SACHI Board expresses appreciation to all members and patrons for their continuing support.

### **To our following sponsors and patrons, a very special note of thanks:**

Bruce & Betty Alberts, Gagan & Jasmin Arneja, Neera & Ed Baer, Lucy Bowen & R. Sites, Rajen Dalal & Linda Burch, Kalpana & Tushit Desai, Raj & Helen Desai, Monica & Steve Henderson, Priya Kamani, Bharti & Pradyot Kansara, Ketan & Sheila Kothari, Manish Kothari & Carmen Saura, Lata Krishnan & Ajay Shah, Poornima & Arun Kumar, Prithvi Legha & Shivi Singh, Mary-Ann Milford-Lutzker, Matra Majmundar & Rajesh Mashruwala, Dr. Forrest McGill, Vinati Mishra, Bhupen & Shakuntala Patel, Sonia Pelia, Bipin & Rekha Shah, Merrill Randol Sherwin, Gursharan & Elvira Sidhu, Gita & Ashok Vaish and Meena Vashee.

### **SACHI partners and co-sponsoring organizations include:**

Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, Public Programs  
Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, Society for Asian Art  
Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, Connoisseurs' Council  
Mills College, Department of Art and Art History, Oakland  
Palo Alto Art Center, Palo Alto  
Palo Alto Medical Foundation, Mountain View  
Stanford University, Center for South Asia  
UC Berkeley Center for South Asia Studies  
1947 Partition Archives at UC Berkeley  
India Community Center, Milpitas  
School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS), University of London  
3<sup>rd</sup> i, South Asia Film Festival, San Francisco

### **To the leaders of co-sponsoring organizations, SACHI extends warm thanks and appreciation:**

**Asian Art Museum:** Qamar Adamjee, Deborah Clearwaters, Sally Le, Forrest McGill, Katie Russell, Allison Wyckoff and Jay Xu; **Society for Asian Art:** Linda Lei, Ehler Spliedt and Coral Reiff; **Mills College, Department of Art and Art History:** Mary-Ann Milford-Lutzker; **Indian Consulate:** Consul General N. Parthasarathi and Geetha Parthasarathi, **Palo Alto Art Center:** Karen Kienzle; **Palo Alto Medical Foundation:** Prithvi Legha; **Stanford University, Center for South Asia:** Thomas Hansen, Linda Hess and Sangeeta Mediratta; **UC Berkeley Department of Art History:** Joanna Williams; **UC Berkeley Center for South Asia Studies:** Puneeta Kala and Raka Ray; **1947 Partition Archives:** Gunneta Singh Bhalla, **India Community Center:** Tanuja Bahal; **SOAS, Univ. of London:** Bharti Kansara; **3<sup>rd</sup> i South Asia Film Festival:** Anuj Vaidya, Ivan Jagirdar and Alka Raghuram.

## SACHI Events, 2011 - 2012

Oct. 7, 2011

*Padmanabhaswamy Temple Treasure and the Royal Family of Travancore*

A conversation/reception evening with Prof. Vidya Dehejia

Barbara Stoler Miller Professor of Indian and South Asian Art, Dept. of Art History, Columbia University

Venue: Hosted by Merrill Randol Sherwin, San Francisco

Sponsored by SACHI

Oct. 22, 2011

*The Magic of India's Jewels*

Lecture presentation on Indian Jewelry with Sue Ollemans

Visiting scholar from London, specializing in works of art on Indian jewelry and Indian miniature paintings

Venue: Home of Margy Boyd, San Francisco

Sponsored by SACHI

Oct. 30, 2011

SACHI Altar, *Palo Alto Art Center 'Day of the Dead' Celebrations, Revering Ancestors in India: Living, Dying, & Transforming*

Hands on art activities, performances, food, music, and storytelling

Co-artists: Rati Mehrotra & Meena Desai

Venue: Lucie Stern Community Center, Palo Alto

Sponsored by Palo Alto Art Center and SACHI

Nov. 12, 2011

*In Conversation with Contemporary Artist Sanjay Patel*

Animator and storyboard artist with Pixar Animation Studio and author/illustrator of *The Little Book of Hindu Deities* and *Ramayana: The Divine Loophole*

Venue: Asian Art Museum, San Francisco

Co-sponsors: Asian Art Museum and SACHI hosted reception

Nov. 13, 2011

Annual Meeting Event:

*Merchant Ivory's India*

Merchant Ivory Film Screenings with introduction and commentary by Prof. Nalini Ghuman, Associate Professor of Music and Asian Studies scholar, Mills College

Venue: Asian Art Museum

Film Screenings:

*Hullaballoo over Georgie's and Bonnie's Pictures* (1978)

Cast: Peggy Ashcroft, Larry Pine, Saeed Jaffrey, Victor Bannerjee, Aparna Sen

*The Autobiography of a Princess* (1975)

Cast: Madhur Jaffrey and James Mason

Co-sponsors: SACHI and the Asian Art Museum

Dec. 4, 2011

*Givant home visit to view Indian-style Lockwood de Forest furnishings*

A turn-of-the-century artist designer, championing Indian-style interiors

Tour led by host Norman Givant and Dr. Forrest McGill, Chief Curator, Asian Art Museum

Venue: Piedmont Home of Mr. Norman Givant

SACHI and Connoisseurs' Council, Asian Art Museum

Dec. 17, 2011

Re-screening of *Hullabaloo over Georgie's and Bonnie's Pictures*

Pre-film commentary and post film discussion with Dr. Robert Del Bonta

Independent scholar, art historian and curator of exhibitions on Indian art

Venue: Education Classroom, Asian Art Museum

Co-sponsors: Asian Art Museum and SACHI

Jan. 19, 2012

*Music e' Dance from the Courts of North India*

A Thumri-Kathak Performance with Dhanashree Pandit Rai and Keka Sinha

A program to depict the close interaction between the two art forms, Thumri & Kathak, evoking the court ambience of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century India through dance, music, and storytelling

Dhanashree Pandit Rai, a leading exponent of the Thumri form of music and recipient of several distinguished awards

Keka Sinha, a distinguished Kathak dancer, television artist, and recipient of numerous awards

Venue: Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum

Co-sponsors: SACHI and Asian Art Museum

Jan. 28, 2012

Symposium

*Maharajas: Political Theatre and the Romance of the East*

Moderator: Qamar Adamjee, Associate Curator of South Asian Art, AAM

**Symposium panelists:**

Tushara Bindu Gude, Associate Curator of South Asian Art, LACMA

Prof. Thomas Metcalfe, UC Berkeley

Prof. Sudipta Sen, UC Davis

Prof. Barbara Metcalfe, UC Davis

Venue: Samsung Hall

Organized by Society for Asian Art and co-sponsored by SACHI

Feb. 25, 2012

*The Royal Family of Travancore*

A Presentation & Conversation on Travancore history with Princess Gouri Parvathi Bayi of the Travancore Royal Family

Moderator: Arun Kumar, a Travancorean, Bay Area resident, and author of *Plain Truths*, a book of poetry

Venue: Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco

Organized by the Asian Art Museum with SACHI hosted tea reception

Feb. 28, 2012

*The Last Mughal: A GUEFTUGU featuring William Dalrymple and Vidya Shah on the glory of the last Mughals*

A reading with celebrated author William Dalrymple from his award winning book, *The Last Mughal: The Fall of a Dynasty, Delhi, 1857*

Accompanying artist: Vidya Shah, North Indian vocalist

Venue: The Pauley Ballroom, 2475 Bancroft Way, UC Berkeley

Organized by Center for South Asia Studies, Berkeley, Asian Art Museum, and Center for South Asia, Stanford with promotional support by SACHI

March 31, 2012 CANCELLED due to unforeseen circumstances

*Meet the Maharaja of Marwar-Jodhpur*

3.00 p.m. conversation, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco

6.00 –8.00 pm: Indian Consulate Reception in association with SACHI for H.H. Maharaja Gaj Singh II of Jodhpur.

April 29, 2012

***Indus Heritage Day Program***

**Celebration of South Asian history and the Ancient Civilization of South Asia**

Keynote Speaker: Prof. Jonathan Mark Kenoyer

Chair, Dept. of Anthropology, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison

Venue: India Community Center, Milpitas

Organized by India Community Center, Pakistan Cultural Center, and 1947 Partition Archives

Supported by SACHI and others

May 8, 2012

***Mabaraja Celebration Lunch***

A celebration to honor Asian Art Museum efforts culminating in a major *Mabaraja* exhibition on display in San Francisco, Oct. 21, 2011 through April 8, 2012.

*Mabaraja: The Splendor of India's Royal Courts* proved groundbreaking in its appeal to the community.

Venue: Amber India Restaurant, San Francisco

Sponsored by SACHI

Sep. 19 - 23, 2012

**3<sup>rd</sup> i South Asian Film Festival, 2012**

Showcasing of diverse images of South Asians through independent film

Sep. 22, 2012

***Alms for a Blind Horse***

**Film screening with director Gurvinder Singh**

Won National Film Award in India for Best Director

Executive producer: late Mani Kaul

Exquisite cinematography portrays a day in the life of a rural Punjabi family facing demolition of their village

Venue: Castro Theater, San Francisco

Co-sponsored and co-presented by SACHI

**Upcoming Fall SACHI Events, 2012**

Oct 25, 2012

***A Royal Legacy:***

**Conversation with jewelry artist designer Jyotsna Singh, a descendant of the House of Patiala**

Venue: Home of Anna Spudich, Palo Alto, CA

Sponsored by SACHI

**Annual Event**

Nov. 3, 2012, 11.00 a.m.

***'Lasya Kavya' - The World of Alarmel Valli***

**A Film by Director Sankalp Meshram**

Screening of documentary film on Bharatnatyam dancer Alarmel Valli

Venue: Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum

Co-sponsored by SACHI and the Asian Art Museum

Nov. 3, 2012, 2 p.m.

***An Indian Way of Seeing: The Art of Raja Ravi Varma***

**A Lecture Presentation by Dr. Robert J. Del Bonta**

An independent scholar on South Asian art and culture

Venue: Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum

Co-sponsored by SACHI and the Asian Art Museum

Nov. 11, 2012

***Deep ki Bela***

**Diwali concert with Vidya Shah, a Vocalist trained in the North Indian and South Indian musical traditions**

Venue: Home of Vinati Mishra, San Francisco

Sponsored by SACHI