

The Body in Indian Art

Curated by Naman P Ahuja

March 14 - June 7, 2014

at
National Museum
New Delhi

How does a civilization express its thoughts on death and rapture? Is one's place in the cosmos fated by destiny, or does a body have its own agency? And how are the values of men constructed differently from those of women?

These questions are considered in this exhibition through multifaceted understandings ranging from representations of heroic, yogic, ascetic, seductive and dangerous bodies in a display of the richness of India's art and thought. The body and its representation is revealed not only as the subject of art, but as the keeper of the values, preoccupations and aspirations of times ancient, medieval and modern, popular as well as classical. The complex plurality of India emerges: which shows the diversity in geography, chronology, patronage, religion and art material that are present in every gallery of the exhibition.

After its successful showing at the Palais des Beaux Arts in Brussels, Belgium, this exhibition will be shown at the National Museum, Delhi. It brings together 220+ artworks from 36 museums, archaeological institutes and private collections, in an exploration of the complex understandings of the 'Body'.

Ranging from monumental stone sculptures located in the storerooms of provincial Indian small-towns, to Chola bronzes from Tanjore, and manuscripts about magic painted for the Mughal Emperor Akbar from the library of the Nawabs of Rampur; the exhibition provides the spectator with a variety of artworks, many of which, have never before been publicly exhibited or published.

National Museum

Janpath, New Delhi 110011

www.nationalmuseumindia.gov.in

Nearest Metro Station:
Central Secretariat and Udyog Bhawan

Bus Routes
National Museum Bus Stop: 505, 521, 522, 615
Nirman Bhawan Bus Stop: 047, 166, 181, 408,
410, 430, 490, 970, 973, 984

Opening hours: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Monday and national holidays closed

Entry with Museum Ticket
Enquiries: 91-1123019272



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Image:
Manikavachakar, Chola, 10th century AD, Bronze, National Museum Collection

