

## PRESS RELEASE

**ONE YEAR AFTER MASSIVE EARTHQUAKES, RUBIN MUSEUM OF ART HONORS NEPAL'S CULTURAL HERITAGE**

***Educational programs, collaborative art exhibitions and #HonorNepal awareness campaign will bring institutions together to highlight Nepal's significance as a source for sacred art***

**New York, NY, April 19, 2016** — One year after earthquakes ravaged the region last April, the Rubin Museum of Art will honor Nepal's people, art, and cultural heritage with a series of events and exhibitions. Bringing together partner organizations and visitors, both online and at the Museum, the exhibitions, programs, and #HonorNepal campaign will focus attention on Nepal's significant contributions to the global landscape.

Last year, on April 25, 2015, devastating news emerged from Nepal as massive earthquakes caused high death tolls, injuries, and widespread destruction. Many historical sites and sacred art objects were lost, and the disaster has served as a reminder of the critical ongoing need to honor and preserve Nepal's unique cultural heritage.

With its mission rooted in the art and ideas of the Himalayan region, the Rubin Museum is offering a variety of ways for worldwide visitors to engage, connect, and learn more about Nepal:

- **Art Exhibitions**

- ***Honoring Nepal: People, Places, Art Collaborative Online Art Exhibition***– In partnership with the Google Cultural Institute and institutions including the British Museum, LACMA, Freer & Sackler Galleries, Newark Museum, Nepal Children's Art Museum, LIFE Picture Collection, Royal Ontario Museum, and the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum, the Rubin Museum of Art has organized an online exhibition reflecting Nepal's distinct contributions to art, culture, and history.
- ***Nepalese Seasons: Rain and Ritual, Opening May 6*** – As life in Nepal faces ongoing threats from natural disasters and climatic changes, this exhibition poignantly illustrates how the country's dependence on monsoon rain continues to play an important role in its agriculture, spirituality, social culture, and art. <http://rma.cm/nk>

- **Online Resources**

- ***Honoring Nepal Website*** -- A dedicated resource web page ([RubinMuseum.org/Nepal](http://RubinMuseum.org/Nepal)) has been created to provide updates about the Museum's collection of Nepalese art, ways to support relief

efforts, and all related programs happening at the Museum.

- **#HonorNepal Awareness Campaign** – On social media, arts and cultural institutions, as well as worldwide supporters, are invited to share images, well wishes, and other information on April 25 to showcase Nepal’s art and culture. Partner organizations include:
  - American Folk Art Museum
  - American Museum of Natural History
  - Artists For Nepal
  - Asia Society
  - Bronx Museum of the Arts
  - China Institute
  - Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum
  - DanceMotion USA (a project of the U.S. Department of State/BAM)
  - Denver Art Museum
  - Grassroot Movement in Nepal
  - Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art
  - Newark Museum
  - Norton Simon Museum
  - Spectrum Dance Theater
  - The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
- Art images, video, and other resources can be accessed at [rma.cm/10v](http://rma.cm/10v)
- **Educational Programs**
  - All year long, the Rubin will present programs focused on Nepal’s recovery and cultural preservation. On May 4, as part of the Rubin’s monthly Himalayan Heritage Meetup, writer Meera Nair, creative writing experts at Kundiman, and Nepali women’s social justice group Adhikaar will present “A Letter Home,” featuring stories from ten Nepali and Tibetan women, written in response to Nepal’s 2015 earthquakes.

“In the face of upheaval, horrific loss of life, and damage to sites of world importance, Nepal’s rich cultural traditions have continued to thrive. By honoring and celebrating the timeless ideas and art from the region, we hope to remind people all over the world that Nepal’s recovery is only just beginning, and preserving cultural heritage is more crucial now than ever,” said Patrick Sears, Executive Director.

For more information about Nepalese culture and art, visit [RubinMuseum.org/Nepal](http://RubinMuseum.org/Nepal).

### **About the Rubin Museum of Art**

The Rubin Museum of Art is an arts oasis and cultural hub in New York City’s vibrant Chelsea neighborhood that inspires visitors to make powerful connections between contemporary life and the art and ideas of the Himalayas and neighboring regions including India. With a diverse array of thought-provoking exhibitions and programs—including films, concerts, and on-stage conversations—the Rubin provides immersive experiences that encourage personal discoveries and spark new

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ways of seeing the world. Emphasizing cross-cultural connections, the Rubin is a space to contemplate the big questions that extend across history and span human cultures.

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