

PRESS RELEASE

RUBIN MUSEUM OF ART TO HONOR NEPAL'S CULTURAL HERITAGE
WITH HIGHLIGHTS FROM ITS COLLECTION

Art installation, tours, and other events will highlight Nepal's significance as a source for sacred art and acknowledge the earthquake's devastation

New York, NY, May 1, 2015 —In response to the earthquake that ravaged the region in April, the Rubin Museum of Art will present "Honoring Nepal," a series of events, educational programs, and a special art installation that will highlight Nepal's significant contributions to the global landscape.

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

- **Special Art Installation, Opening May 4** -- *Honoring Nepal*, located in the Museum lobby and free of charge for visitors, will display a small selection of the nearly 600 Nepalese objects in the Museum's collection, reflecting Nepal's importance as a source for sacred Buddhist and Hindu art.
- **Labeled Objects** -- Throughout the Rubin's galleries, objects of Nepalese origin will be highlighted with the label #HonorNepal, showcasing their significance in the collection and providing context for visitors.
- **Educational Tours** -- The Rubin has created a special itinerary for visitors interested in learning more about Nepalese art and culture. Guided tours will be held on Wednesday and Friday evenings, and on request. Audio guides will also be available, narrated by Nepalese curator Gautama Vajracharya.
- **Evening Events** -- Each Wednesday evening in May, from 6-9pm, the Museum and café will host special programming:
 - **Honor Nepal Spiral Music Sessions** -- Nepalese musicians, as well as performers with deep connections to the country, will play in the lobby, beginning with sarangi player Shyam Nepali and Raj Kapoor of the Dance Theater of Nepal on May 6.
 - **Relief Awareness** -- Organizations providing relief in the wake of the earthquake will share information with Museum visitors.
- **Honoring Nepal Website** -- A dedicated resource web page (RubinMuseum.org/Nepal) has been created to provide updates about Nepalese art, ways to support relief efforts, and all related programs happening at the Museum.

- **Social Media** – Visitors are invited to express respect and appreciation by posting images and wishes on social media using the hashtag #HonorNepal.

“The tragedy in Nepal continues to unfold as news and photographs emerge daily, giving us a fuller picture of the devastating impact which will linger for years to come,” said Patrick Sears, Executive Director. “By focusing on the Museum’s collection of Nepalese art, we hope to remind visitors of the rich cultural traditions that continue to this day, despite the horrific loss of life and damage to sites of world importance.”

The Rubin Museum also offers its facility to relief organizations who wish to host benefit events at a heavily discounted rate.

For more information about Nepalese culture and art, visit 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, India, and neighboring regions. 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 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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