

For Immediate Release

THE
RUBIN

MUSEUM
OF
ART

PRESS RELEASE

THE RUBIN MUSEUM OF ART ANNOUNCES 2024 EXHIBITIONS AND PROGRAMS TO COINCIDE WITH 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Reimagine: Himalayan Art Now will present the Museum’s largest exhibition of contemporary art to date and will offer fresh perspectives on the collection and Himalayan culture.

The exhibition *Gateway to Himalayan Art* continues its national university tour, broadening access to and understanding of Himalayan art to students, educators, and the public.

NEW YORK, NY, December 12, 2023 — The Rubin Museum of Art is pleased to announce key exhibitions and programs in 2024, the Museum’s 20th-anniversary year. Highlights include the landmark exhibition ***Reimagine: Himalayan Art Now***, a Museum-wide group show of over 30 contemporary artists from the Himalayan region and diaspora whose work is presented in dialogue with objects from the collection; traveling exhibition ***Gateway to Himalayan Art*** opening nationally in Florida and Ohio as part of the Rubin’s Project Himalayan Art initiative; and **live programming** and the Museum’s annual print and online publication, ***Spiral magazine***, bringing together diverse voices to reframe perspectives and reimagine the world around us. In fall 2024, the Museum will announce the inaugural winner of its new **Rubin Himalayan Art Prize**, an award in support of contemporary artists whose practices are in dialogue with traditional Himalayan art.

“Throughout our 20th-anniversary year we will shine a light on our collection and our scholarship over the last two decades and look towards the future,” says **Rubin Museum Executive Director Jorrit Britschgi**. “Part of that future includes more initiatives outside of New York and supporting artists and creatives working today—particularly contemporary artists who look to traditional Himalayan for inspiration, such as those commissioned for our *Reimagine* exhibition or rewarded with our new Rubin Himalayan Art Prize. This speaks to our core mission to advance the appreciation and understanding of Himalayan art globally.”

Additional information on the Rubin Museum’s exhibitions, projects, and public programs will be announced in the coming months, including the 2024 venue for the traveling Mandala Lab.

Reimagine: Himalayan Art Now

March 15–October 6, 2024

Curated by Michelle Bennett Simorella, Director of Curatorial Administration & Collections at the Rubin Museum of Art, Tsewang Lhamo, artist and founder of Yakpo

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Collective (New York), and Roshan Mishra, Director of the Taragaon Next (Kathmandu, Nepal).

Reimagine: Himalayan Art Now is a group show featuring the work of over 30 contemporary artists, including those from Bhutan, Nepal, and Tibet as well as select international artists inspired by Himalayan art. Their artworks are presented in dialogue with objects from the Museum’s collection. Newly commissioned and recent works in a wide range of media—including painting, video, sound, sculpture, and durational performance—reimagine the forms, symbols, and narratives found within the living cultural heritage of the Himalayas, inviting new ways of encountering the Rubin’s collection. The artists explore themes of cultural identity, displacement, transnationalism, and what it means to belong, offering critical and thoughtful commentary on social issues of our time. The exhibition will be presented throughout the entire Museum and represents the Rubin’s largest engagement thus far with contemporary artists.

Participating artists:

Amrit Bahadur Karki; Bharat Rai; Bidhata K C; Charwei Tsai; Chitra Ganesh; Jasmine Rajbhandari; John Tsung; Jupiter Pradhan; Kabi Raj Lama; Kunsang Gyatso; Kunsang Kyirong; Losel Yauch; Lu Yang; Manish Lal Shrestha; Meena Kayastha; Monsal Pekar; Pema (Tintin) Tshering; Prithvi Shrestha; Roshan Pradhan; Salil Subedi; Shraddha Shrestha; Shushank Shrestha; IMAGINE (aka Sneha Shrestha); Sonam Dolma Brauen; Tenzin Gyurmey Dorjee; Tenzin Mingyur Paldron; Tsherin Sherpa; Uma Bista; Asha Kama Wangdi, VAST; Yangdzom Lama; YESHE.

The Rubin Himalayan Art Prize

In fall 2024, the Rubin will announce the winner of its inaugural Rubin Himalayan Art Prize, a new award in support of artists or creatives who have majorly contributed to critically relevant dialogues between traditional Himalayan art and contemporary life. Awarded annually, the award consists of an unrestricted cash prize in support of contemporary artistic practices related to the Himalayan regions. Rubin Museum jury members and an international committee of experts will nominate and select artists in a closed selection process.

Gateway to Himalayan Art

Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida Gainesville, Florida

February 13–July 28, 2024

The Frank Museum of Art, Otterbein University, Westerville, Ohio

August–December 2024

Gateway to Himalayan Art is a traveling exhibition modeled on the Rubin Museum’s cornerstone exhibition of the same name that introduces the main forms, concepts, meanings, and traditions of Himalayan art and cultures. The exhibition features objects from the Rubin Museum’s collection as well as multimedia elements—audio, videos, essays, maps, and more—from the Rubin’s recently launched educational initiative, Project Himalayan Art, a resource designed to support the inclusion of Tibetan, Himalayan, and Inner Asian art and cultures into undergraduate teaching on Asia.

The exhibition highlights the fundamental visual language and meanings of Himalayan art, the materials and techniques used, and the purposes for the creation of these objects, often in the context of religious and secular well-being. It also includes voices from Himalayan artists and contemporaries, along with connections to related digital content to learn more.

Laurie Anderson: *About Time*

Public Program

February 9: Laurie Anderson + Jane Hirshfield

February 23: Laurie Anderson + Tom McCarthy

March 24: Laurie Anderson + Venerable Tenzin Priyadarshi

March 30: Laurie Anderson + Benjamín Labatut

Laurie Anderson curates a series of onstage conversations around the concept of time, one of the most impermanent forms of measurement that humans have devised to help manage life. Do you feel like you're running out of time? Which way is it going? Are you able to stop time? If so, how? Laurie Anderson tackles these questions and more with writers, thinkers, and poets who help us reframe the concept of time.

Spiral Magazine 2024: Reframe Issue

Print and online

Available March 2024

Spiral magazine is the Rubin Museum's annual free publication at the intersection of art, science, and Himalayan cultures. *Spiral* asks big questions at the center of our shared human experience through interviews, essays, poetry, art, at-home practices, and more. The eighth issue, titled Reframe, is inspired by Buddhist thinking and ideas on non-attachment. It invites readers to consider what possibilities arise when we examine and release our attachments to stories, beliefs, or identities that no longer serve us. Organized in four sections—release, reframe, reimagine, and realize—the magazine looks at attachment from the perspectives of a Buddhist teacher, social neuroscientist, and others, as well as highlights voices of people who have detached from the status quo or inherited belief systems so they can radically reimagine and recreate what our world could be.

A second release of new online-only content will be published in October 2024.

Support

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Eychaner, Christopher J. Fussner, the Estate of Lisina M. Hoch, Matt and Ann Nimetz, The Randleigh Foundation Trust, Shelley and Donald Rubin, and Jesse Smith and Annice Kenan.

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Dr. Bibhakar Sunder Shakya, to honor the memory and legacy of Professor Dina Bangdel, art historian, curator, cultural activist, and educator from Nepal.

Samphe and Tenzin Lhalungpa, to honor the memory and works of L.P. Lhalungpa, Tibetan scholar, broadcaster, and educator.

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Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this initiative, do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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About the Rubin Museum of Art

The Rubin Museum of Art in Chelsea, New York City, explores and celebrates Himalayan art, cultures, and ideas across history and into the present. With its globally renowned collection, centered largely around art from the Tibetan Plateau, the Rubin fosters understanding and appreciation of the art by interpreting and relating it to our shared human experience today. Inspired by the tenets of Buddhism, Hinduism, and indigenous religions, and aligned with ongoing research into learning, behavior, and the brain, the Rubin offers innovative exhibitions and programs that examine provocative ideas across the arts and explore the mind. Through this work, the Museum serves as a space for reflection and personal transformation, opening windows to inner worlds so visitors can better navigate outer ones.

www.rubinmuseum.org

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