



Art of Colonial India

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Tuesdays, March 25 to April 15, 2025 – 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Further Reading

Davis, Richard H. "Ch. 5 Indian Images Collected" *Lives of Indian Images* (Princeton UP, 1997) 143-185.

Breckenridge, Carol A. "The Aesthetics and Politics of Colonial Collecting: India at World Fairs." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 31, no. 2 (April 1, 1989): 195–216.

Barringer, Tim. "The South Kensington Museum and the Colonial Project" in *Colonialism and the Object of Empire: Empire, Material Culture and the Museum*. (New York: Routledge, 1998) 11-27.

Metcalf, Thomas. "Architecture and the Representation of Empire: India 1860-1910." *Representations*. No 6 (1984) 37-65.

Mitter, Partha. "Chapter VI Towards the Twentieth Century." *Much Maligned Monsters: A History of European Reactions to Indian Art*. (University of Chicago, 1992) 252-286.

Falconer, John. "'A pure labour of love': A Publishing History of the *People of India*" *Colonialist Photography: Imag(in)ing Race and Place*. Hight and Sampson eds. (Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group, 2004). 51-83

Kinsey, Danielle C. "Koh-i-Noor: Empire, Diamonds, and the Performance of British Material Culture." *The Journal of British Studies*. Vol.48 No. 2 (2009) 391 – 419

Ahlawat, Deepika. "Empire of Glass: F&C Olser in India, 1840-1930." *Journal of Design History*. Vol. 21 No. 2 (2008) 155-170.

Videos

These short videos on the Kundan and Enameling processes used in Mughal jewelry are excellent:

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/articles/traditional-indian-jewellery-making>

Timeline

1600 British East India Company Founded

1605 – 1627 reign of Mughal Emperor Jahangir

1612 British defeated the Portuguese in India and were given trade concessions by the Mughals.

1615 The company acquired its first territory in Bombay and soon after in Calcutta and Madras.

1627 – 1658 of Mughal reign Emperor Shah Jahan

1658 – 1707 reign of Mughal reign Emperor Aurangzeb

1707 – 1712 reign of Mughal Emperor Bahadur Shah. The Mughal begin to decline.

1712 – 1713 reign of Mughal Emperor Jahandar Shah – the Mughals enter a period of instability

1757 The East India Company took Bengal

1793 Nadir Shah of Persia sacks the Mughal court

1851 “Great Exhibition of the Industry of All Nations” (The Crystal Palace)

1857 – The “Sepoy Mutiny/Rebellion/Uprising”

1857 The South Kensington Museum is established

1858, the EIC was dissolved, and the administration of India became the responsibility of the Crown. Direct rule on India, known as The Raj, was exercised through the India Office

1899 “Colonial India Exhibition” and the building of the Victoria and Albert Museum

1947 India gains its Independence