Much Maligned Monsters A History Of European Reactions To Indian Art

Much Maligned MonstersIdolatry and the Colonial Idea of IndiaThe Iconic ImaginationThe Book of RevelationArt Without BordersOut of BoundsBelonging across the Bay of BengalSocial AnalysisThe Bookseller and the Stationery Trades' JournalPerceptions of South Asia's Visual PastFrom Ajanta to ElloraAfrica QuarterlyĀndhra ŚrīThe Raj, Lahore, and Bhai Ram SinghArchitecture and IndependenceThe Cinema of Robert GardnerThe Significance of Gardening in British IndiaThe BooksellerArt for a Modern India, 1947-1980Public Culture Partha Mitter Swagato Ganguly Douglas Hedley Timothy Beal Ben-Ami Scharfstein Alan G. Johnson Michael Laffan Catherine Blanshard Asher Eicher Goodearth Limited M. Krishna Kumari Pervaiz Vandal Jon T. Lang Lucien Taylor Charles Carlton Rebecca M. Brown

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in this fascinating study partha mitter traces the history of european reactions to indian art from the earliest encounters of explorers with the exotic east to the more sophisticated but still incomplete appreciations of the early twentieth century mitter s new preface reflects upon the profound changes in western interpretations of non western societies over the past fifteen years

this book explores literary and scholarly representations of india from the 18th to the early 20th centuries in south asia and the

west with idolatry as a point of entry it charts the intellectual horizon within which the colonial idea of india was framed tracing sources and genealogies which inform even contemporary descriptions of the subcontinent using idolatry as a concept metaphor the book traverses an ambitious path through the works of william jones james mill friedrich max müller john ruskin alice perrin e m forster rammohan roy and bankimchandra chatterjee it reveals how religion and paganism history and literature oriental thought and western metaphysics and social reform and education were unfolded and debated by them the author underlines how idolatry irrationality and social disorder came to be linked by discourses informed by enlightenment missionary rhetoric and colonial reason this book will appeal to scholars and researchers in history anthropology literature culture studies philosophy religion sociology and south asian studies as well as anyone interested in colonial studies and histories of the enlightenment

is it merely an accident of english etymology that imagination is cognate with image despite the iconoclasm shared to a greater or lesser extent by all abrahamic faiths theism tends to assert a link between beauty goodness and truth all of which are viewed as divine attributes douglas hedley argues that religious ideas can be presented in a sensory form especially in aesthetic works drawing explicitly on a platonic metaphysics of the image as a bearer of transcendence the iconic imagination shows the singular capacity and power of images to represent the transcendent in the traditions of christianity judaism hinduism and islam in opposition to cold abstraction and narrow asceticism hedley shows that the image furnishes a vision of the eternal through the visible and temporal

the life and times of the new testament s most mystifying and incendiary book few biblical books have been as revered and reviled as revelation many hail it as the pinnacle of prophetic vision the cornerstone of the biblical canon and for those with eyes to see the key to understanding the past present and future others denounce it as the work of a disturbed individual whose horrific dreams of inhumane violence should never have been allowed into the bible timothy beal provides a concise cultural history of revelation and the apocalyptic imaginations it has fueled taking readers from the book s composition amid the christian persecutions of first century rome to its enduring influence today in popular culture media and visual art beal explores the often wildly contradictory lives of this sometimes horrifying sometimes inspiring biblical vision he shows how such figures as augustine and hildegard of bingen made revelation central to their own mystical worldviews and how thanks to the vivid works of art it inspired the book remained popular even as it was denounced by later church leaders such as martin luther attributed to a mysterious prophet identified only as john revelation speaks with a voice unlike any other in the bible beal demonstrates how the book is a multimedia constellation of stories and images that mutate and evolve as they take hold in new contexts and how

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revelation is reinvented in the hearts and minds of each new generation this succinct book traces how revelation continues to inspire new diagrams of history new fantasies of rapture and new nightmares of being left behind

people all over the world make art and take pleasure in it and they have done so for millennia but acknowledging that art is a universal part of human experience leads us to some big questions why does it exist why do we enjoy it and how do the world s different art traditions relate to art and to each other art without borders is an extraordinary exploration of those questions a profound and personal meditation on the human hunger for art and a dazzling synthesis of the whole range of inquiry into its significance esteemed thinker ben ami scharfstein s encyclopedic erudition is here brought to bear on the full breadth of the world of art he draws on neuroscience and psychology to understand the way we both perceive and conceive of art including its resistance to verbal exposition through examples of work by indian chinese european african and australianartists art without borders probes the distinction between accepting a tradition and defying it through innovation which leads to a consideration of the notion of artistic genius continuing in this comparative vein scharfstein examines the mutual influence of european and non european artists then through a comprehensive evaluation of the world s major art cultures he shows how all of these individual traditions are gradually but haltingly conjoining into a single current of universal art finally he concludes by looking at the ways empathy and intuition can allow members of one culture to appreciate the art of another lucid learned and incomparably rich in thought and detail art without borders is a monumental accomplishment on par with the artistic achievements scharfstein writes about so lovingly in its pages

out of bounds focuses on the crucial role that conceptions of iconic colonial indian spaces jungles cantonments cities hill stations bazaars clubs played in the literary and social production of british india author alan johnson illuminates the geographical rhetorical and ideological underpinnings of such depictions and from this argues that these spaces operated as powerful motifs in the acculturation of anglo india he shows that the bicultural intrinsically ambivalent outlook of anglo indian writers is acutely sensitive to spatial motifs that insofar as these condition the idea of home and homelessness alternately support and subvert conventional colonial perspectives colonial spatial motifs not only informed european representations of india but also shaped important aesthetic notions of the period such as the sublime this book also explains how and why europeans rhetorical and visual depictions of the indian subcontinent whether ostensibly administrative scientific or aesthetic constituted a primary means of memorializing empire creating an idiom that postcolonial india continues to use in certain ways consequently johnson examines specific motifs of anglo indian cultural remembrance such as the hunting memoir hill station life and the mutiny all of which facilitated the mythic

iconography of the raj he bases his work on the premise that spatiality the physical as well as social conceptualization of space is a vital component of the mythos of colonial life and that the study of spatiality is too often a subset of a focus on temporality johnson reads canonical and lesser known fiction memoirs and travelogues alongside colonial archival documents to identify shared spatial motifs and idioms that were common to the period although he discusses colonial works he focuses primarily on the writings of anglo indians such as rudyard kipling john masters jim corbett and flora annie steel to demonstrate how conventions of spatial identity were rhetorically maintained and continually compromised all of these considerations amplify this book s focus on the porosity of boundaries in literatures of the colony and of the nation out of bounds will be of interest to not only postcolonial literary scholars but also scholars and students in interdisciplinary nineteenth century studies south asian cultural history cultural anthropology women s studies and sociology

belonging across the bay of bengal discusses themes connecting the regions bordering the bay of bengal mainly covering the period from the mid 19th through the mid 20th centuries a crucial period of transition from colonialism to independence focusing on the notion of belonging the chapters in this collection highlight themes of ethnicity religion culture and the emergence of nationalist politics and state policies as they relate to the movement of peoples in the region while the indian ocean has been of interest to scholars for decades there has been a notable tilt towards historicizing the western half of that space often prioritizing islamic trade as the key connective glue prior to the rise of western power and the later emergence of transnational indian nationalism belonging across the bay of bengal enriches this story by drawing attention to buddhist and migrant connectivities introducing discussions of lanka burma and the straits settlements to establish the historical context of the current refugee crises playing out in these regions this is a timely and innovative volume that offers a fresh approach to indian ocean history further enriching our understanding of the current debates over minority rights and refugee problems in the region it will be of great significance to all students and scholars of indian ocean studies as well as historians of modern south and southeast asia

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in this volume papers by scholars representing various disciplines especially archaeology art history and history from the united states india pakistan europe and australia discuss how attitudes toward the subcontinents visual past shaped a distinctive aesthetic together with a distinctive historical consciousness

from ajanta to ellora travel guide is a visually attractive guidebook is a detailed introduction to the many attractions and mysteries

of these rock cut temples that are the product of divine inspiration and ingenuity

articles on the cultural history of andhra pradesh

ram singh 1858 1916 indian architect

architecture reflects the spirit of its times in india s case the fight for independence examining the forces that have shaped indian architecture over the last century this profusely illustrated book traces the patterns of architecture and its response to political change in both india and the world since the founding of the indian national congress

the most artistic of ethnographic filmmakers and the most ethnographic of artistic filmmakers robert gardner is one of the most original as well as controversial filmmakers of the last half century this is the first volume of essays dedicated to his work a corpus of aesthetically arresting films which includes the classic dead birds 1963 a lyric depiction of ritual warfare among the dugum dani in the highlands of new guinea rivers of sand 1974 a provocative portrayal of relations between the sexes among the hamar in southwestern ethiopia and forest of bliss 1986 a sublime city symphony about death and life in benares india eminent anthropologists philosophers film theorists and fellow artists assess the innovations of gardner s films as well as the controversies they have spawned contributors ilisa barbashmarcus banksstanley cavellroderick cooverelizabeth edwardsanna grimshawkarl g heiderpaul henleysusan howedavid macdougalldusan makavejevÁkos Östörwilliam rothmansean scullylucien taylorcharles warren

this book is a multi faceted study of the role of gardening in british india with several accompanying illustrations it is a study of imperial history environmental history cultural history and women s history first as a study in imperial history that shows how the british used landscape architecture to convey images of power to both themselves and the indians second as a study in environmental history this book traces the way in which the british established a whole series of botanical gardens centered at kew in london tea and cincinchona an antidote for malaria were imported to be grown in india while opium was forcibly exported to china without cincinchona imperialism would have been medically impossible and without tea or opium imperialism would have not been immensely profitable third this is a study in cultural history exploring how the british tried to modify india by creating their own cultural retreat the hill station finally this book deals with women s history gardening became a means by which english women occupied themselves creating a little england to alleviate the intense homesickness

a look at how prominent indian visual artists created modern art for the postcolonial nation in the years between india s independence in 1947 and 1980

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