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INDIAN PAINTING
THE LESSER-KNOWN TRADITIONS

Edited by Anna L. Dallapiccola

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Kodansha Europe Ltd.

40 Stockwell Street, Greenwich, London SE10 8EY, United Kingdom
T: +44 (0)20 8293 0111 E: info@kodansha.eu www.kodansha.eu

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Foreword: N.S. Vatsa Kumar

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India has an astonishingly rich variety of painting traditions. While miniature painting schools became virtually extinct with the decline of aristocratic patronage, a number of local vernacular idioms still survive and continue to develop. The present collection of papers is the volume of the proceedings of the conference 'Indian Painting: The Lesser-Known Traditions' held in Houston in 2008. The aim of the conference was to highlight these lesser-known artistic expressions grouped, until the recent past, under the heading of 'folk art'. These artistic expressions are now beginning to be recognised as of pivotal importance for an understanding of the social setting in which they have evolved.

The essays concentrate on Assam, Bengal, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala. The time-span, covered by the works discussed by the contributors, ranges from the late seventeenth century to the present day.

Orders, Distribution & Invoicing:

PGUK

orders@pguk.co.uk

T: +44 (0)20 8804 0400

About the Editor:

Anna L. Dallapiccola, Professor of Indian Art at the South Asia Institute of Heidelberg University (1971–1995) was appointed Honorary Professor at Edinburgh University, and regularly lectured at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London. She was Visiting Professor at De Montfort University, Leicester until 2004. She was closely involved in the Vijayanagara Research Project (1984–2001).

Other Contributors:

T. Richard Blurton • Samiran Boruah • Crispin Branfoot • Rosemary Crill • Anna L. Dallapiccola • Sona Datta • Mary Beth Heston • Jyotindra Jain • Nina Sabnani • Kavita Singh • Kirtana Thangavelu

