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Akriti to Sanskriti

The Journey of Indian Forms



Harsha V. Dehejia

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Title:

Akriti to Sanskriti

The Journey of Indian Forms

Author: Harsha V. Dehejia

Hands thus have a language and a voice, a music and a rhythm, a song and a dance, a story and a message, and all this through the various *akritis* that they produce

A tradition where the oral and the subjective are as important as the visible and the objective, a culture which is often a visual treat and a spiritual stimulant... Indian civilisation has layers of images where the highest train of thoughts from erudite verses mingle with simple home truths lying embedded in a long heritage of *kathas* (stories), *gathas* (songs), *akritis* (visual forms and motifs) and *rachanas* (compositions).

Akriti to Sanskriti: The Journey of Indian Forms explores some *akritis* that adorn majestic monuments as well as ordinary spaces in India. Created by ordinary people and traditional artisans, these beautiful forms transcend individual and ritualistic boundaries to express a shared experience of visual knowledge, culture as well as *brahma jnana* or transcendental knowledge down generations.

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About the Author:

Harsha V. Dehejia is a practising physician and a Professor of Indian Studies at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. A widely respected aesthete and art collector, he has written extensively on Indian art and culture.

Akriti to Sanskriti: The Journey of Indian Forms, a unique analysis and repository of Indian visual forms, is a collector's tome

