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JEWELS AND THE INDIAN NATIONAL ART PROJECT

Edited by

Kenneth X. Robbins  Marvin Tokayer

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376pp, 150 gsm art paper (matt)

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- **The book chronicles the substantial role played by Jews in the shaping and development of contemporary Indian art and aesthetics.**
- **Contains images of lost paintings of Fyzee Rahamin and Magda Nachman, and other never-before-seen paintings.**
- **Written in an unbiased manner and supported with in-depth research, the book will be invaluable to anyone who wishes to understand contemporary Indian art.**

This volume reveals the roles of foreign and Indian Jews in the Indian national art project and raises issues such as: Does the term “Indian artist” apply to any artist born into an Indian family? What role can foreigners and members of Indian minority groups play in the Indian National Art Project as scholars, critics, or artists? Is a piece of work “Indian art” because of its subject matter or its style? Is it possible to utilize “foreign techniques” in creating “Indian art”?

Jews and the Indian National Art Project documents the work of artists such as Anna Molka Ahmed, Mirra Alfassa (The Mother), Siona Benjamin, Carmel Berkson, and Fredda Brilliant as well as those of photographers (David Mordecai and Man Ray) and architects (Otto Königsberger, Moshe Safdie). Also covered in this volume are the work of critics, scholars and art patrons like Ernst Cohn-Wiener, Charles Fabri, Stella Kramrisch, and Marion Harry Spielmann.



Kenneth X. Robbins is a psychiatrist, collector, and independent scholar on South Asia. In addition to publishing more than seventy articles, he is co-editor of *African Elites* in India and is working on a book about the Princely states of Gujarat and several other volumes about Jews in South Asia.



Marvin Tokayer was rabbi for the Jewish Community of Japan and vice-president of the Federation of Jewish Communities of Southeast Asia and the Far East. He has authored more than 20 Japanese books on Judaica. He has participated in the Jewish dialogue with “Eastern religious leaders” as well as visiting and helping Indian and Chinese Jews.

