



the center for the art of the indian subcontinent  
at the SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART

Date: Saturday, May 30th, 2015

Time: Noon

Venue: San Diego Museum of Art Rotunda

## Conversation with the Curator Series:

Private Tour of Lalla Essaydi Exhibition of Photographs, 2005-2013

Join Marika Sardar as she gives a private tour of the latest exhibition she has organized connecting the Art of the Past with the Artists of the Present. This unique exhibition of photographs by New York based photographer, Lalla Essaydi, explores issues surrounding the role of women in the Arab culture and their representation in the western European artistic tradition.

The photos are technically impressive. Behind each of her images are weeks of preparation, as the text is composed, the fabrics are dyed to match the setting in which they will appear, and the architectural backdrops are carefully constructed. The entire field of the almost life-size photographs appears in sharp focus, the result of her use of the large format camera and traditional film.

The show includes ten works from three different series which are presented in spaces throughout the Museum. One group is located in the gallery dedicated to contemporary art, while others are shown in the context of our Permanent Collections: alongside examples of historic Middle Eastern tilework and calligraphy; with related European paintings; and as part of the global discourse of modern art.



Photograph from the Harem Series

## Marika Sardar, Ph.D., Associate Curator of Southern Asian & Islamic Art, San Diego Museum of Art



Marika Sardar has been Associate Curator of Southern Asian and Islamic Art at The San Diego Museum of Art since August 2013. Marika received her Ph.D. from the Institute of Fine Arts, NYU (2007) with a dissertation on Deccani architecture. She worked for six years in the Department of Islamic Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where she was involved with the reinstallation of 15 galleries for Islamic art (2011) and the exhibition, *The Interwoven Globe: Worldwide Textile Trade, 1500-1800* (2013).

Publications include essays on the architectural, textile, and painting traditions of the Deccan; on the Metropolitan Museum's excavations at Nishapur, Iran; and on Safavid and Ottoman textiles. She has also written the section on South Asian art for the textbook *Asian Art* (2014), and co-edited, with Navina Haidar, the volume *Arts of India's Deccan Courts, 1323-1687* (2011).

### Registration

RSVP to [jas@dotia.net](mailto:jas@dotia.net) or call 858-792-9439 no later than Thursday, May 28th, 2015.

Admission ticket includes reception with speaker, refreshments and the lecture

Free to CAIS members \$8 for full time students \$10 for Museum members \$20 for Non-Members

### PROGRAM:

12 noon - Please note that tour will start promptly at noon ... end at 1

Tour is limited to 20 persons