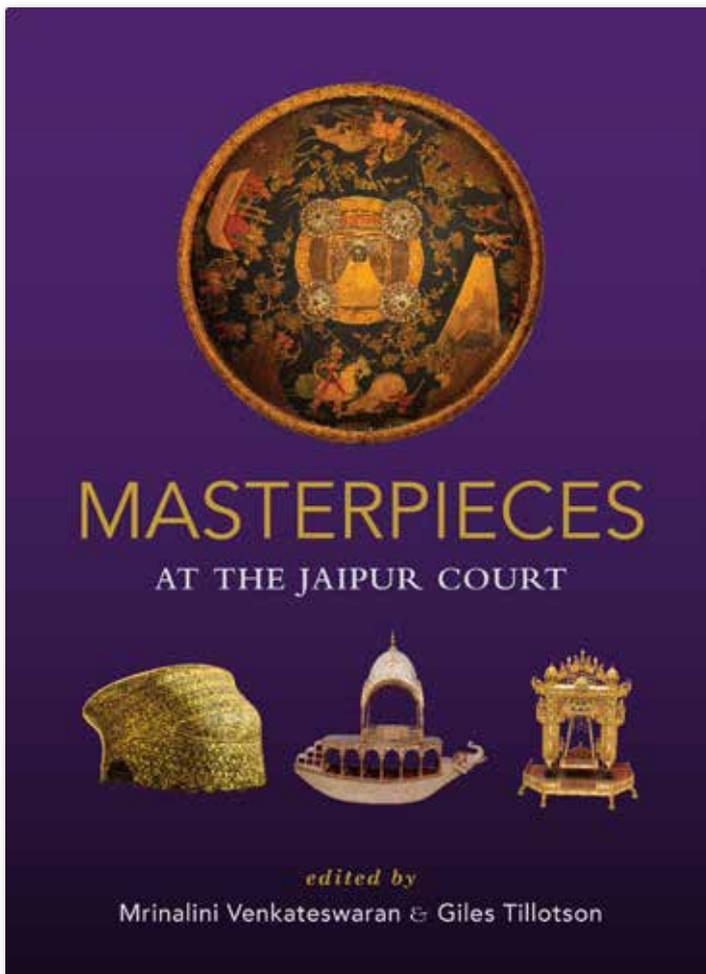


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## *Masterpieces at the Jaipur Court*

*Mrinalini Venkateswaran & Giles Tillotson*

*View the finest objects d'art of the  
Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum,  
City Palace, Jaipur*

*Masterpieces at the Jaipur Court* is the sixth in a new series of books initiated by the Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum, City Palace, Jaipur. Written by leading specialists, they are designed to be accessible and attractive for a new generation of readers and researchers. Each of the other volumes covers one aspect of the collections. But the need was felt for something handier, which would showcase the highlights of the collection as a whole. This selection features some of the most exquisite images, artefacts, paintings, monuments and historical treasures of the Jaipur Court.

Over the years, it has been an honour for the Museum Trust to welcome a variety of visiting scholars from India and abroad. The editors are pleased and grateful that some three dozen visiting scholars readily contributed two-thirds of the entries in this volume, making this a celebration of collaboration, in addition to a tribute to the Museum's collections.

The contributors were asked to pick their favourite object from among those they had worked on recently, so that readers perceive a diversity of voices and views. Apart from this, current and recent members of the curatorial team have contributed entries, to complete the selection of the Museum's finest objects across all categories, and all historical periods.

**Mrinalini Venkateswaran** is Museum Consultant to the MSMS II Museum Trust, with experience in the museum sector in collections management, and on research-led exhibitions and publications, since 2006. She has published widely on the history of photography in India. As an historian of modern South Asia, she seeks to connect museums and the academy. Her work has been supported by the Cambridge Trust, Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, J.N. Tata Endowment, Royal Asiatic Society, and Royal Historical Society, among others. She is the recipient of a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship at Royal Holloway, University of London.

**Giles Tillotson** has been Consultant Director (Research, Publications & Exhibitions) at the MSMS II Museum since 2011. He was earlier Reader in History of Art at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London; and is a Fellow (and former Director) of the Royal Asiatic Society, London. He has written and edited many books on Indian architecture, history, and landscape, including *Jaipur Nama: Tales from the Pink City* (2006), and has curated exhibitions in Jaipur, Delhi, Mumbai and New York. He is currently Senior Vice President, Museum Exhibitions for DAG, based in New Delhi.

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*'Over the centuries, the Jaipur court supported the work of superb scholars and artists in Jaipur and beyond, through its discerning patronage of literature, paintings, textiles, architecture, and armour... This book...brings together highlights from our collection put together with a personal touch, by the many scholars who have worked on them.'*

**Princess Diya Kumari**

**Secretary & Trustee, Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum Trust, MP for Rajsamand**

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