

THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION

*Indian Art Today: Four Artists from the Chester and Davida
Herwitz Family Collection*

1984-1986

Finding Aid

**The Phillips Collection
Library and Archives
1600 21st Street NW
Washington D.C. 20009
www.phillipscollection.org**

CURATORIAL RECORDS IN THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION ARCHIVES

INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

Collection Title: *Indian Art Today: Four Artists from the Chester and Davida Herwitz Family Collection*

Author/Creator: The Curatorial Department of The Phillips Collection, Willem de Looper, Curator

Collection No.:

Size: .5 linear feet

Bulk Dates:

Inclusive Dates: 1984-1986

Repository: The Phillips Collection Archives, 1600 21st Street NW, Washington, D.C.

ABSTRACT

Indian Art Today: Four Artists from the Chester and Davida Herwitz Family Collection exhibition records contain material created by Willem de Looper, former Curator, The Phillips Collection, throughout the process of organizing the 1986 exhibition. Included are correspondence, loan agreements, articles, publicity and photographs.

HISTORICAL NOTE

This exhibition was part of the Festival of India, a yearlong celebration, beginning in June 1985, of that nation's art, music, drama, dance, film and crafts.

SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE COLLECTION

These curatorial records were created and collected during the research and execution of the *Indian Art Today: Four Artists from the Chester and Davida Herwitz Family Collection* exhibition. The exhibition presented ten works each of the following four contemporary Indian artists; Raza, Laxma Goud, Ramanujam, and M.F. Husain. In the foreword to the exhibition catalogue, Director Laughlin Phillips writes, "My selections of the work of the four artists were based on the type of considerations we normally apply to loan exhibitions: that the artists have a unique, personal esthetic vision, and in this case that the vision is strongly reflect their Indian cultural heritage and not simply the prevailing international art movements."

This exhibition opened at The Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C. on February 22, 1986 and closed on April 6, 1986.

The primary creator of the exhibition planning records was Willem de Looper, Curator.

The bulk of this collection consists of material pertaining to the organization of the exhibition, including correspondence, loan agreements, articles, publicity, individual artist files, exhibition catalogues and photographs.

The remaining source material is comprised of information pertaining to the Festival of India.

CUSTODIAL HISTORY AND ACQUISITION INFORMATION

This collection is owned by The Phillips Collection and was accessioned from the curator's office, in accordance to the museum's records schedule.

PROCESSING AND DESCRIPTION INFORMATION

Date Processes: Research material processed by Michele De Shazo September thru October 18, 2009.

Processed By: Michele De Shazo, Volunteer Archives Assistant, supervised by Karen Schneider, Librarian

Processing Notes: After an initial survey of the collection, some documents were identified as being of no future reference value to the collection, such as duplicate documents, general housekeeping notes, and poor quality photographs. These items were weeded with the librarian's approval. Original newsprint article were copied onto acid-free paper; all documents were re-folded in acid-free folders and metal clips were replaced with plastic clips.

Finding Aid Written By: Michele De Shazo, Volunteer Archives Assistant, supervised by Karen Schneider, Librarian

ARRANGMENT OF THE COLLECTION

The collection is arranged in one series:

Exhibition Planning

Within the Exhibition Planning series Correspondence and Articles are arranged chronologically within the folders.

These records maintain the original order created by Willem de Looper, Curator.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Series I: Exhibition Planning

Series I contains material assembled to facilitate the organization and execution of the 1986 *Indian Art Today: Four Artists from the Chester and Davida Herwitz Family Collection* exhibition

Box Inventory

Series I: Exhibition Planning

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|------------------|--|
| Folder 1 | Correspondence 1984-1986 |
| Folder 2 | Correspondence: Indian Embassy 1985 |
| Folder 3 | Loan Agreements |
| Folder 4 | Laxma Goud |
| Folder 5 | Maqbool Fida Husain |
| Folder 6 | Syed Haider Raza |
| Folder 7 | Articles 1982; Publicity |
| Folder 8 | Exhibition and Events Guest-lists |
| Folder 9 | Catalogue: Grey Art Gallery <i>Contemporary Indian Artists</i> ; Catalogue: Museum of Modern Art (Oxford, England), <i>India: Myth or Reality – Aspects of Modern Indian Art</i> |
| Folder 10 | Photographs (Chester and Davida Herwitz with their collection) |
| Folder 11 | Festival of India: General Information; Festival of India: Articles 1984-1985 |
| Folder 12 | Festival of India: Programming and Publicity |