



[View this email in your browser](#)

A Letter from the Islamic Department

Dear Patrons and Enthusiasts of the Islamic Art Department,

As the days shorten and grow cooler, we are looking forward to an exciting calendar of events this fall, including lectures, new exhibitions, and projects. There is still some time to see "The Decorated Word: Writing and Picturing in Islamic Calligraphy" on view until November 2nd in the Hagop Kevorkian Fund Special Exhibitions Gallery.

We are also happy to announce the fall lectures, featuring research from notable speakers and scholars William Dalrymple, Salam Kaoukji, and Marianna Shreve Simpson. Details on these events and more follow below.

Thank you for your support, and we hope to see you soon.

The Department of Islamic Art

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, September 17th, 2019 at 4:00 pm

["The Anarchy: The East India Company, Corporate Violence, and the Pillage of of an Empire"](#)

William Dalrymple, Author and Historian

Lecture, followed by a book signing

The Bonnie J. Sacerdote Lecture Hall

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[RSS](#)

Wednesday, September 25th, 2019 at 6:30 pm

[The Al Thani Lecture Series on the Art of the Mughal World](#)

"A Tribute to Magnificence & Artistry: Precious Weapons from the al-Sabah Collection, Kuwait"

Dr Salam Kaoukji, Chief Curator and Collection Manager, The Al-Sabah Collection, Kuwait

The Bonnie J. Sacerdote Lecture Hall

Please RSVP to helen.goldenberg@metmuseum.org/ 212-650-2938.

Friday, November 15th, 2019 at 5:00 pm

["Painted Preludes and Postscripts in Persian Poetic Manuscripts"](#)

Marianna Shreve Simpson

Visiting Scholar, University of Pennsylvania

The Bonnie J. Sacerdote Lecture Hall

Please RSVP to helen.goldenberg@metmuseum.org/ 212-650-2938.

In the Galleries:

["The Decorated Word: Writing and Picturing in Islamic Calligraphy"](#)

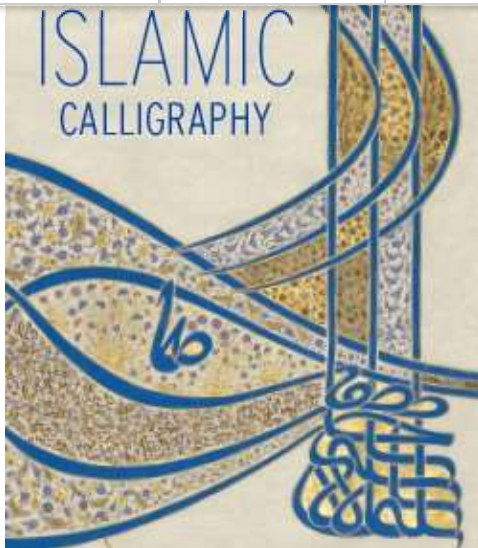
On view until November 2, 2019

Gallery 458, [The Hagop Kevorkian Fund Special Exhibitions Gallery](#).

Calligraphy has been referred to as the most characteristic expression of the Islamic spirit and a key achievement of Islamic civilization. This exhibition will examine the inherent tension between textual design, decoration, readability and verbal clarity using works from the collection in a variety of media from the ninth century to the present. This exhibition is made possible by The Hagop Kevorkian Fund.



[Bifolium from the Andalusian Pink Qur'an](#), 13th century, Spain, Ink, gold, silver, and opaque watercolor on paper, Purchase, Friends of Islamic Art Funds, 2017 (2017.232)

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[RSS](#)

This exhibition features many of the works illustrated in the recent publication [How to Read Islamic Calligraphy](#) by Curator Maryam Ekhtiar.

Recent Acquisitions:

[Portrait of Kuchal Oghlan: Folio from Salim's Album](#)

ca. 1595-1600

Ink, opaque watercolor, and gold on paper

India

Folio: H: 9.2 in (23.3 cm) x W: 5.9 in (14.9 cm)

Miniature: H: 5 in (12.7 cm) x 2.7 in (6.8 cm)

Purchase, Friends of Islamic Art Gift, 2019

2019.159



Persian inscriptions identify the subject of this painting as Kuchal Oghlan (son of Kuchal), a Mughal courtier, as well as the name of the artist, Nanha. This work is a single folio from the so-called Salim Album, named for Prince Salim, who later became the Mughal Emperor Jahangir (r. 1605-27). The album was assembled around 1600, a moment when Prince Salim rebelled against his father Emperor Akbar (r. 1556-1605) and set up a rival court in Allahbad. Nanha has masterfully painted this aging courtier, who in his old age relies on the support of the staff tucked under his left arm.

[Portrait of 'Ali Quli Mirza, 'Izad al-Saltana](#)

By Abu'l Hasan Ghaffari, known as Sani' al-Mulk

Dated A.H. 1273/A.D. 1856-7

Opaque watercolor, gold, and ink on paper

H: 12.6 in (32 cm) x W: 8.27 in (21 cm)

Purchase, 2017 NoRuz at The Met Benefit, 2019

2019.150



This fine portrait of Prince Ali Quli Mirza l'tizad al-Saltana (Minister of Higher Learning under Nasir al-Din Shah Qajar) demonstrates the artist's extraordinary skills in rendering naturalistic portraits that capture the sitter's psychological state. Here, he has devoted attention to a lavishly decorated interior of carved plaster walls with touches of cut mirrorwork and the prince's brocade cloak. By 1850, photography was widely practiced at court, which had a decisive impact on painting as seen in this portrait.

Travel with The Met:

Join Associate Curator Deniz Beyazit on a visit to Georgia and Turkey from August 30th to September 12th, 2020. At the crossroads of Europe and Asia, delve into the ancient and medieval roots of two countries whose histories are intertwined. In Turkey, travel to Istanbul to marvel at the 6th century basilica of Hagia Sophia. Enjoy a special cruise along the scenic Bosphorus, attend a private dervish ceremony, and stroll through the Grand Bazaar and the colorful Spice Market. Continue to Cappadocia to discover the ancient rock-hewn churches, underground cities, and otherworldly landscape. In Georgia, roam Tbilisi's sparkling Old City and savor wine tastings and visits to monasteries set amid awe-inspiring mountains.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼[RSS](#)

Contact Us:

We'd love to hear from you! If you have any questions about the Department of Islamic Art of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, please do reach out to helen.goldenberg@metmuseum.org.

Click here to [unsubscribe](#), or email helen.goldenberg@metmuseum.org with the subject line "UNSUBSCRIBE."

