

Mathers Museum of World Cultures

Events and Exhibitions Calendar

February 2016

Events



Beyond Bollywood Lecture Series
Re-Presenting Indian America: Race, Inequality, and the So-Called "Model Minority"

Thursday, February 4; 5 p.m.
 According to Pawan Dhingra (above), Professor and Chair of Sociology and Professor of American Studies at Tufts University, Indian Americans occupy a unique place in today's cultural imaginary, as the epitome of the "model minority." Whether doctors, software engineers, or spelling bee champions, Indian Americans are praised for their professional achievements and hard work. Efforts to dismantle the stereotype argue that portrayals cover up much of the heterogeneity of Indian America, those in poverty, survivors of violence, activists, and more. This presentation, however, deconstructs the model minority notion in a different way.

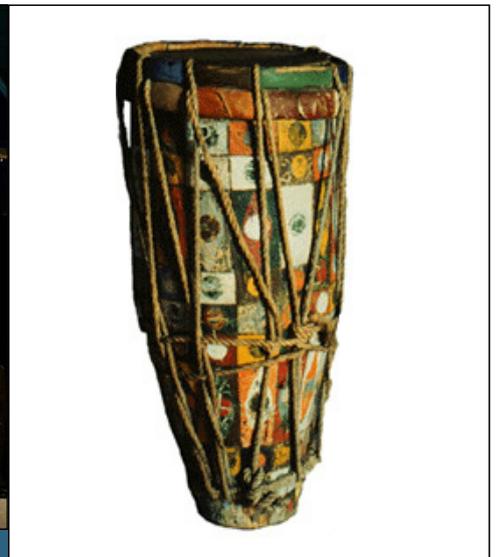


Mathers After Hours
Trashion Refashion Workshop
Thursday, February 4; 7 to 9 p.m.

Join Gail Hale and friends of Discardia to create new garments from unwanted pieces during this two-hour, Trashion-Off style challenge in preparation for Trashion Refashion, Bloomington's annual runway event. Trashion Refashion has inspired designers, students, and community members (adults and children) to find new ways to reuse discarded materials in a creative way.

Open to all skill levels, anyone can submit their design and any model can walk the runway regardless of body type or experience.

Submissions are open until March 1, 2016, and if you're thinking about submitting a design, we'll provide workspace and some materials during this event to help get you on your way. (We'll have a limited number of sewing machines, so feel free to bring your own.) The event is free and open to the public.



Instruments of Culture Lecture
A Retrospective: Haiti's Drums of Vodou, and the Mid-Century Ethnographers Who Collected Them
Friday, February 12; 4 to 5 p.m.

From the colonial period to the present, Haiti's sacred drums of Vodou have been revered and celebrated in some circles, while feared and systematically destroyed in others--yet they have consistently been located at the center of Haitian experience. Using several instruments from the Mathers Museum collection as a backdrop for conversation, Rebecca Dirksen, Assistant Professor in the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology at Indiana University, will discuss the historical and contemporary significance of tanbou (drums) within Haitian culture and the American ethnographer-collectors whose paths ultimately brought these instruments to Indiana University. This presentation will be amply illustrated with archival recordings and fieldwork video. Dirksen has published in the *Yearbook for Traditional Music*, *Ethnomusicology Review*, the *Bulletin du Bureau d'Ethnologie d'Haiti*, and elsewhere; she is presently writing a book on music, disaster, and development in Haiti. The event is free and open to the public.



Family Craft Day
Inspired by India
Sunday, February 7; 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Learn about and explore crafts inspired by traditional Indian arts and crafts during this free event for families.

Activities will focus on crafts such as rangoli (patterns made from colorful materials), toran (garlands) and rakhi (woven bracelets), as well as Mendhi hand designs.



Beyond Bollywood Lecture Series
Race, Repression, and Indian Anticolonialism in North America and Across the Pacific
Friday, February 19; 5 p.m.

Seema Sohi (left), Assistant Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder, explores the early decades of the 20th century, when Indian migrants across North America organized a broad, innovative, and heterogeneous anticolonial movement.

Exhibitions

Beyond Bollywood: Indian Americans Shape the Nation
 On exhibit January 30 through April 10.

Cherokee Craft, 1973
 On exhibit through July 1.

MONSTERS!
 On exhibit through December 18.

Putting Baskets to Work in Southwestern China
 On exhibit through February 7.

Stirring the Pot: Bringing the Wanamakers Home
 On exhibit through May 27.

Thoughts, Things, and Theories...What Is Culture?
 Ongoing.

Working Wood: Oak-Rod Baskets in Indiana
 On exhibit through February 7.

Visit MMWC

The Mathers Museum of World Cultures is located at 416 N. Indiana Avenue, Bloomington, Indiana. Admission to the museum is free. The Mathers Museum exhibition hall and Mathers Museum Store are open Tuesdays through Fridays, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturdays and Sundays, from 1 to 4:30 p.m.



**MATHERS MUSEUM OF
 WORLD CULTURES**

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