



Connected Histories? Arabia, India and the Architecture of Medieval Ethiopia



Finbarr Barry Flood

Institute of Fine Arts, NYU and
Visiting Slade Professor of Fine Arts in Oxford

2 p.m., Tuesday 12th February
Fellows' Dining Room, St Antony's College

Although early modern artistic connections between India and Ethiopia are reasonably well documented, there is little or no epigraphic or textual evidence for earlier histories of circulation across the Indian Ocean. Yet, architectural and other material from the Horn of Africa suggests a certain intensity of contacts with western Indian in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Highlighting the 'archival' value of extant artifacts and monuments, this lecture explores the role of medieval Ethiopia as a nexus between the Indian Ocean and Mediterranean.

Finbarr Barry Flood is director of *Silsila*: Center for Material Histories and William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor of the Humanities at the Institute of Fine Arts and Department of Art History, New York University. His publications include *The Great Mosque of Damascus: Studies on the Makings of an Umayyad Visual Culture* (2000), *Objects of Translation: Material Culture and Medieval "Hindu-Muslim" Encounter*, (2009), awarded the 2011 Ananda K. Coomaraswamy Prize of the Association for Asian Studies, and the 2-volume *Blackwell Companion to Islamic Art and Architecture* (2017), co-edited with Professor Gülru Necipoğlu of Harvard University. He is currently completing a major book project, provisionally entitled *Islam and Image: Beyond Aniconism and Iconoclasm*, which will form the basis of the 2019 Slade Lectures at the University of Oxford.

All are welcome

Convenors: Faisal Devji, Polly O'Hanlon, Kate Sullivan de Estrada, Nayanika Mathur,
Mallica Kumbara Landrus and Ali Jan
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