

Arts of Asia Lecture Series Fall 2018
Desert Encounters: Arts, Cultures and Kingdoms of the Silk Roads
Sponsored by The Society for Asian Art

The Persians Outside of the Heartland: Central Asia and the Oxus Treasure

Dr. Kim Codella, Cosumnes River College

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Abstract: In this talk we will explore aspects of the Achaemenid (Persian) empire, its influences and iconography in art and architecture. Given the geography of the empire, astride the silk route, what was its role in the inheritance and transmission of art and ideas? We will also use the 'Oxus Treasure' as an avenue to explore the issues of provenance of what is "Persian" anyway?

Important Dates

Neo Assyrian Empire 911 to 609 BC, N. Iraq

Achaemenid (Persian) Empire ca. 550 to 330 BC, Iran.

The Lydian Kingdom ca. 1200 to 546 BC, Turkey.

The Phrygian Kingdom ca.1200 to 540 BC, Turkey

Alexander 356 to 323 BC

Places

Tahkt-i Sangin, Tajikistan; Ai Khanum, Afghanistan; Samarkand, Uzbekistan, Pazyryk Valley, Russia; Pasargadae, Susa and Persepolis, Iran; Khorsabad and Nineveh, Iraq; Gordion, Turkey; Sardis, Turkey.

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