

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

Visions of Emptiness: Unpacking the Murals of the Dalai Lama's Nāga House

Jacob P. Dalton, UC Berkeley
November 30, 2018

Lukhang ("Nāga House"): perhaps first built c. 1700?

Key Figures:

- Fifth Dalai Lama (1617-1682): "Founded" the early-modern Tibetan government.
- Sixth Dalai Lama (1683-1706): Some say oversaw construction of the original Lukhang
- Seventh Dalai Lama (1708-1757):
- Eighth Dalai Lama (1758-1804): Also said to have constructed the Lukhang.
- Desi Sangye Gyatso (1653-1705): Fifth Dalai Lama's Regent
- Lhazang Khan (d. 1717): Mongolian King who (rather fervently) supported the Dalai Lamas
- Terdak Lingpa (1646-1714): Nyingma teacher to the Fifth and Sixth Dalai Lamas
- Lochen Dharmaśrī (1654-1717): Brother of Terdak Lingpa; Nyingma teacher who is said (without proof) to have overseen the painting of the murals in the Lukhang.

Suggested Reading List:

- Ian A. Baker, *The Dalai Lama's Secret Temple: Tantric Wall Paintings from Tibet* (Thames & Hudson, 2000).
- Christopher Hatchell, *Naked Seeing: The Great Perfection, the Wheel of Time, and Visionary Buddhism in Renaissance Tibet* (Oxford University Press, 2014).