

Spring 2023 Arts of Asia Lecture Series  
Global Connections: Asia and the Arts in the Second Millennium of the Common Era  
Sponsored by the *Society for Asian Art*

**Retrieving the Erased Spiritual and Material Cultures  
of Early Philippine Polities ca. 1000-1500 CE**

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**Abbreviated Timeline of Philippine History**

1521 – Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan makes landfall in the Visayan islands on March 16<sup>th</sup> and claims the islands in the name of the Spanish Crown

1565 – Miguel Lopez de Legazpi and Fr. Andres de Urdaneta arrive in Cebu; colonization and conversion of local inhabitants begin in earnest

1896-1898 – Philippine National Revolution against Spanish colonial rule

1898 – The US government takes over the Philippines at the end of the Spanish-American War in Cuba

1946 – The US government grants Philippines Independence on July 4<sup>th</sup>

**Key Terms in Philippine Pre-history**

**Agusan Gold Image** – ca. 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century gold female image in the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago; now believed to represent Vajralāsya

**Agusan Gold Inscription** – ca. 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> century gold strip with inscriptions in Late Kawi Script

**bahandi** – Visayan word meaning heirloom wealth

**balangay** – early type of plank-built wooden boat

**Bathala** – Indigenous term for the Supreme Being, later applied to God the Father in the Catholic religion.

**Butuan** – a ca. 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century Philippine polity in northeastern Mindanao

**Kali** – Hindu avatar of Durga; also a term referring to Indigenous martial arts

**kamagi** – prestigious type of neck ornament with interlocking gold beads

**kayong kayong** – Visayan term for spangles

**Kinnari** – in Hindu mythology a celestial female being, half-bird & half-human. The male counterpart is known as Kinnara.

**Laguna Copperplate Inscription** or **LCI** – ca. 10<sup>th</sup>-century copperplate with inscriptions in an Early Kawi Script

**Mahāpratisarā** - a protective goddess in Mahayana and Vajrayana Buddhism

**Vajralāsya** - one of the offering goddesses in a Vajradhatu or Diamond World mandala

**Vajrayana** – Tantric Buddhism

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