

Arts of Asia Lecture Series Spring 2012
The Arts of South Asia & the Himalayas: The Sacred & the Secular
Sponsored by The Society for Asian Art

Southeast Asian Art, Artifacts, and Material Culture in Global Context

Eric Tagliacozzo
History Department, Cornell University
March 12, 2012

Part I: The History of the Spice Trade

Ancient Histories

How the Ancient Worlds were Connected by Spices as Material Culture

The Opening of the Medieval World

Venice, the Ottomans, and the Indian Ocean: Searching for SE Asia

The “Contact Age” of the Great Voyages

Sailing East and Sailing West: How “Things” Launched the Age of Discovery

New Colonial Worlds

The Age of the Great Companies, and Thereafter

The Legacies of Exchange

3 Products: Cloves, Coffee, and Edible Birds Nests

3 Ideas: “First Globalizations”, Banks and Teapots; What is Central?

Part II: Artifacts and Material Culture in Motion

The Maelstrom of Biota

The World of Plants

Local Products and Local Uses
Local Products and Export Uses
European Introductions

Animal Products in Motion

Birds of Paradise

Hornbills
Rhino Horns

Manufactures
Gramophone Records
Candles, Earthenware, Cloth and Coins

Munitions: Arms as Deadly Art

The Origins of Munitions in Southeast Asia
The Uses of Munitions as Material Culture
Illegality and the Late Colonial Age
Who was Involved?

Ceramics: Porcelain as Trade Objects and Use Objects

Histories of Ceramics as Art and Objects in SE Asia
The Ethnologist's Eye

Some Bibliography on Spices, Artifacts, and Material Culture in Southeast Asia:

- Corn, Charles, *The Scents of Eden: A History of the Spice Trade* (New York: Kodansha, 1998).
- Milton, Giles, *Nathaniel's Nutmeg, or the True and Incredible Adventures of the Spice Who Changed the Course of History* (New York: Penguin, 2000).
- Reid, Anthony, *Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce: The Lands Beneath the Winds* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1988), Volume I, chapter 3, "Material Culture"
- Savage, Victor, *Western Impressions of Nature and Landscape in Southeast Asia* (Singapore; Singapore University Press, 1984)
- King, Victor, *Explorers of South-East Asia: Six Lives* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995).
- Warren, James, *The Sulu Zone* (Singapore: Singapore University Press, 1981).
- Harrison, Barbara, *Pusaka: Heirloom Jars of Borneo* (Singapore; Oxford University Press, 1986).