

Dan L. Monroe

*The Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo
Director and CEO*



Dan L. Monroe, the Rose – Marie and Eijk van Otterloo Director and CEO, has led PEM through remarkable set of transformation since assuming leadership in 1993. During his tenure PEM has been among the fastest growing art museums in America. Upon completion in 2017 of PEM's current \$650M Campaign, more than \$570M of which has already been raised, PEM will have increased its endowment from \$23M to more than \$600M; increased operating budget from \$3.4M to \$35M; designed and completed two expansion 288,000 square feet; quadrupled attendance to more than 300,000 annually; raised more than \$1 billion dollars, and added thousands of works of art to PEM's collections. PEM exhibitions have been presented at leading museums including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, SFMoMA, Kimbell Art Museum, and many others.

Dan has served as President of the American Association of Museums (now the American Alliance of Museums), the Association of Art Museum Directors and the Western Museums Conference. He helped write and pass the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, landmark federal legislation that fundamentally changed relationships among Native American tribes, museums, and federal agencies. He served on the NAGPRA Review Committee for ten years and has also played a key leadership role in national advocacy for museums and the Establishment of national policies pertaining to ethics, cultural property, deaccessioning, and other topics. He has also served as a grants reviewer for the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, and Institute of Libraries and Museum Services and Senior Advisor to the Getty Leadership Institute. Dan has lectured internationally on myriad topics pertaining to museums. He is a recognized expert on Native American art and maintains strong personal interests in Asian art, Contemporary art, and Photography.

Dan has worked extensively in China and elsewhere in Asia, especially in relation to PEM's pioneering Yin Yu Tang project, a unique cultural exchange between PEM and China that resulted in the acquisition of a Qing Dynasty house in Anhui Province, China and its re-erection at PEM. Monroe has also been a musician, art photographer, and award-winning filmmaker.



National Gallery of Modern Art Mumbai,
Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sanghralaya
and
Museum Society of Bombay

have great pleasure in inviting you to a talk by

Mr Dan Monroe

Director, Peabody Essex Museum

and

Ms Sona Datta

Curator, Indian and South Asian Art,
Peabody Essex Museum

on

**Other Modernities:
Peabody Essex Museum and Indian Art**

on Wednesday 15th April, 2015
at 6.00 pm

venue

AUDITORIUM

NATIONAL GALLERY OF MODERN ART

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Please join us for tea at 5.30pm



Sona Datta Ph.D.

Curator of Indian and South Asian Art

Sona Datta arrived at PEM in February 2014 and since then has launched an inspiring vision for the future of the Indian and South Asian Art program at the museum. Datta comes to PEM from the British Museum, London, where during her eight-year tenure as art historian and curator, she specialized in the visual culture of South Asia. At PEM, Datta will play a pivotal role in shaping the museum's program in South Asia art primarily through innovative exhibitions, interpretation and programming as well as strategic collection enhancement and research.

"Sona's expertise in Indian art from the medieval to the modern, as well as her demonstrated ability to present living artistic traditions, are perfectly in tune with our ambitions for Indian art at PEM," said Lynda Roscoe Hartigan, The James B. and Mary Lou Hawkes Chief Curator.

Datta's research in modern Indian art and especially the post-1947 art of Bengal are well-matched to the strengths of PEM's South Asian collection, especially the 19th-century vernacular arts of Bengal and PEM's world-class collection of Kalighat paintings. In recent years, Datta has turned her attention to modernism in Indian art and the wider South Asian region, particularly Pakistan and Bangladesh. Shortly after arriving at the British Museum in 2005, Datta co-curated the groundbreaking "Voices of Bengal" season. The exhibition made an installation out of a creative process, which set a new bar for exhibiting living traditions. The project attracted more people of South Asian extraction than any project in the British Museum's history. Datta's curatorial approach has been particularly successful in attracting new audiences and particularly engaging diaspora communities.

Her acquisition of innovative modern art from Pakistan took the British Museum's engagement with contemporary South Asia in a new direction. The historic and modern culture of India and Pakistan is the subject of a new television series she is just completed with the BBC.