



राष्ट्रीय आधुनिक
कला संग्रहालय
NATIONAL GALLERY
OF MODERN ART

National Gallery of Modern Art, Bengaluru (Ministry of Culture, Government of India)

presents

India on Transferware *Objects of Fascination*

an illustrated talk by

Nirupama Rao, Ambassador (Retd.)

on Wednesday 26th August, 2015 at 6.00 pm.

at **The Auditorium,**

National Gallery of Modern Art

Manikyavelu Mansion, 49, Palace Road, Bengaluru-560 052

Tea will be served at 5.30 pm.



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ngma.bengaluru@gmail.com [080 2234 2338](tel:080-2234-2338)

Synopsis of the Talk

In the early nineteenth century, 'Transferware', that is, china with engravings of popular touristic or exotic scenes 'transferred' on to its surface, and coloured with cobalt, enjoyed considerable popularity in the European and North American markets. Indian scenery, often falling within the rubric of 'Oriental Scenery' or, 'Asiatic Scenery', became the subject of such 'Transferware', produced by manufacturers like Spode, Rogers, Davenport and Copeland, among others. The inspiration for the scenes on transferware with Indian subjects came mainly from the aquatints and drawings of Englishmen in India, like 'Oriental Scenery' by Thomas and William Daniell, 'A Picturesque Tour along the River Ganges and Jumna in India' by Lieut. Charles Ramus Forrest, published in the early 1800s. These images that depicted exotic flora and fauna was made in blue and white but also in reds and browns, presenting works of considerably beauty and artistic excellence.



Photo Credit: kennedy.bju.edu

About the Speaker

Educated in schools across India and appointed to the Indian Foreign Service in 1973 after the completion of her Masters degree in English Literature, Nirupama Rao, is one of the best known faces of Indian diplomacy, having served as India's first woman spokesperson at the Foreign Office in New Delhi, and also as the country's second woman Foreign Secretary, the highest post in the Foreign Service, from 2009 to 2011. She served as India's Ambassador to Peru and Bolivia (1995 to 1998), People's Republic of China (2006 to 2009), High Commissioner from India to Sri Lanka (2004 and 2006) and also Ambassador of India to the United States from 2011 to 2013.

Ambassador Rao, who speaks Spanish and German besides English, Hindi and Malayalam, is an avid bibliophile, a lifelong student of literature, a follower of western opera, and a collector of antiquarian books and maps on India, Tibet and China. She is also a music lover, and a singer who has tried her hand at song-writing. She has performed in solo concerts in New Delhi, Bangalore, Colombo and Washington DC.