



राष्ट्रीय आधुनिक  
कला संग्रहालय  
NATIONAL GALLERY  
OF MODERN ART

National Gallery of Modern Art, Bengaluru  
in collaboration with



International Music & Arts Society

Cordially invites you an illustrated lecture



DECCAN HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION

## "Iranian Inspiration - Firdausi's Shahnameh in India " by Dr. William Kwiatkowski



Copies of the Shahnameh count among the earliest Persian illustrated manuscripts from India, and judging by the number of copies in a huge variety of local and Mughal styles, Firdausi's epic was one of the most popular and significant expressions of Indo-Persian culture throughout the medieval and early-modern periods. The production of copies of the Shahnameh not only signified the Indian elites' participation in the broader universe of Persian culture; the independence of Mughal and other Indian traditions of Shahnameh illustration from Iranian ones shows rather that the Shahnameh had particular significance for an Indian audience, and it seems that certain episodes were chosen for illustration because of their particular relevance to Mughal history and Indo-Persian culture.

**Will Kwiatkowski** is an independent scholar working on inscriptions from Iran, India and the Ottoman Empire. He has published readings of inscriptions for various museum publications, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art's catalogue *Islamic Arms and Armour in the Metropolitan Museum of Art*. He has a close association with the David Collection in Copenhagen, where he was a curator for two years and now is a permanent consultant on inscriptions and manuscripts.



National Gallery of Modern Art  
Manikyavelu Mansion, Palace Road  
Bangalore - 560 052  
Tel: +91 080 2234 2338  
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Sunday, 14th January, 2018, 6.p.m.  
Tea will be served at 5.30 p.m.  
Please be in your seats by 5:50 p.m.