



The Philadelphia Museum of Art has one of the finest Indian and Himalayan art collections in the Americas, a long history of collecting, and a strong record of collaborative curatorial activity with the University of Pennsylvania. W. Norman Brown, founder of Penn's South Asia Department, was an acting curator; he helped hire Stella Kramrisch from India as a professor at Penn and curator at the PMA; the current Stella Kramrisch Curator of Indian and Himalayan Art at the museum, Darielle Mason, received her Ph.D. in the History of Art from Penn. Until Dec. 7, a gallery exhibition, "Multiple Modernities: India 1905-2005" organized by Penn students in a Halpern-Rogath Curatorial Seminar at Penn last year, will be on display in the William P. Wood Gallery (<http://www.philamuseum.org/exhibitions/321.html>).

This seminar is set up to give students with wide interest in the arts of South Asia an opportunity to learn about and to use the rich resources of the Philadelphia and University of Pennsylvania Museums' collections.



The only example of Indian stone architecture in an American museum, this temple hall is a reconstruction composed of granite pillars and carved slabs from the ruins of three shrines that were built in the ancient city of Madura, in southern India. All three shrines date from about 1525-50, the height of the Vijayanagar dynasty style, and were consecrated to the Hindu god Vishnu, preserver of the universe.