

Friday March 2

CK Choi Building, Rm. 120, 1855 West Mall, Vancouver

8:30-9am Registration and breakfast

9:00-9:15am Welcome

9:15-10:45am Panel 1: Arts and Expression, Chair: Sara Shneiderman, UBC

Maria Phourides	UW	Dhaka to Tokyo: A Case Study in the Networks of Exchange in Modernist Art Production
Subhash Prajapati	UW	Traditional, folk, fusion and confusion: music and change in Newar community of Nepal
Vijaya Jammi	UBC	The 'Total Act' and "Via Negativa": A Reflection of the Indian Classical Theory of Performance
Raghavendra Rao K.V.	UBC	South Asian Canadian Pasts and Canada 150+
Ragini Chakraborty	UBC; Jadavpur University	Expressions of the South Asian Diaspora in Canada

10:45-11am Break

11-12:30: FIRST KEYNOTE: Ruby Lal, Emory University: 'The Small Things of History: Archive for Nur Jahan, The Great Mughal' **Abstract:** Nur Jahan was the only woman ruler in the long dynasty of India's great Mughals. How did the Empress's extraordinary strengths, the emperor's lamentable weaknesses, the twists and turns of 17th-century politics, and the power of their love combine to defy a time and a culture that ought to have made the reign of Nur Jahan impossible? And why is it that this phenomenal figure has been effectively expunged from Mughal histories?

12:30-1:30 Lunch

1:30-3 Panel 2: Conflicts, Controversies, Reconciliations, Chair: Doug Ober, UBC

Daniel Kent	Whitman College	Reconciliation, Remorse, and Karma: A Breakdown in Buddhist Moral Imagination in the Aftermath of War
Sanzida Habib and Habiba Zaman	UBC & SFU	Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh: The Political Economy of a Humanitarian Crisis
Anudeep Dewan	UOregon	Of Recognitions and Claims: A dual-scale study of territoriality in the proposed state of Gorkhaland
Tara Mayer	UBC	Partition in the Classroom: Teaching Historical Controversies in South Asian History

3-3:15 pm Break

3:15-4:45 Panel 3: Environments, Ecologies, and Development, Chair: Nemkumar Banthia, UBC

Anand Vaidya	Reed College	The Forest Rights Movement and the Politics of Proof
Reetinder Kaur	UBC	The post-green revolution Punjab, India: Concerns for health, food and ecology
Ellison Heil	UW	The Daalbhat Cooperative: Assessing Annapurna's Integrated Conservation Development Programs in Ghandruk, Nepal
Olivia Conniff Molden	UOregon	Managing Water and Anticipating Development in the Kathmandu Valley
Elsie Love	Portland State	Comparing environmental discourses in Nepal's national curriculum and Rautamai, Udayapur District's local curriculum

4:45-5 pm Break

5-6:30 SECOND KEYNOTE: Gyanendra Pandey, Emory University, "Unarchived Histories: Men, Home, and India's Anti-Colonial Struggle" **Abstract:** This talk will explore the question of historical and archival neglect in the case of domestic relations and men's place in the home in the period of militant anti-colonial struggle.

6:30-7:15 pm Dinner

7:30 pm Documentary Screening and Discussion, Gurvinder Singh

Location: Asian Centre Auditorium

AWAZAAN (Voices)

50 mins / Punjabi / 2016

Amarjit Chandan, the Punjabi poet, chose to live in England after leaving his homeland post the turbulent times of the Naxalite movement in Punjab in the 1970s. But his attachment and love for the homeland and its language did not cease and he became a champion of his mother-tongue Punjabi. Though living in a distant foreign land, all along he kept close contact with his former colleagues and friends, most of them writers, poets and comrades. The film is an account of the poet's journey in 2009 through Punjab, a sort of revisiting of the past. The film weaves together his poetry with conversations and reflections on the past and the present state of Punjab and its cultural and emotional landscape. The filmmaker has been a close friend with the poet for more than a decade and accompanied Amarjit through this journey. The film culminates in a much desired meeting with his idol John Berger in France, just a few days before Berger's passing away in 2016.

Saturday March 3

CK Choi Building, Rm. 120, 1855 West Mall, Vancouver

8:30am Registration and Breakfast

9-9:30am Information session on Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute and IC-IMPACTS

9:30-11 am Panel 4: Early Modern and Colonial Texts and Contexts, Chair: Anne Murphy, UBC

Spencer W. Pennington	UW	The Jinn in the Machine: Hajj Narratives of the Early Modern Indian Ocean World
Sravani Kanamarlapudi	UW	Vālmīki's portrayal of Rāma as an 'Ideal Enemy'
Archa Neelakandan Girija	UBC	Early European Colonialism and the South Asian Port Cities: A Case Study of Calicut
Aali Mirjat	SFU	"A Strange Mixture of Criticism, Misunderstanding, and Admiration": Richard Burton, Dogmatic Secularism, and the Qissas of Sindh

11-12:30 Panel 5: Health and Social Interventions, Chair: M.V. Ramana, UBC

Farah Shroff and Nadra Ansari	UBC	Addressing Complexities of Maternal and Child Health in South Asia: MIH Can's contribution
Tsering Watermeyer	UBC	Constructing Social Work in Liminal Spaces: The Case of Tibetan Diaspora in India
Jeremy Spoon	Portland State	Understanding Recovery from the 2015 Nepal Earthquakes: Resilience and Change
Robinder Bedi	UBC	The State of the Profession of Counselling Psychology in India

12:30 -1:15 Lunch

1:15-2:45 pm Religiosities, Chair: Adheesh Sathaye, UBC

Jackson Stephenson	UW	Why should Left-Handed Tantra inspire Right-wing Politics?
Omer Aijazi	UBC	In search for the 'local': Sattar Shah, and his many devotions
Michael Butcher	UW	Religious Zones: A New Approach for Conceptualizing Religions
Ajay Bhardwaj	UBC	The mussalmani gaddi of Punjabi Dalits: Dalit-Sufis of East Punjab
Noor Asif	UW	The Marvelous Encounters the Beloved: Surrealism and Sufism

2:45-3:00pm Break

3-4:30 Himalayan Borderlands, Chair: Katherine Hacker, UBC

Emily Amburgey	UBC	Himalayan Borderland Issues: Identity, State Building and Mobility
James Binks	UBC	Himalayan Borderland Issues: Identity, State Building and Mobility (With Emily and Bendi in Panel)
Bendi Tso	UBC	Linguistic Practices and Ethnic Identity Production in the Sino-Tibetan Borderland Space: The Case of Chone
Lindsay Skog	Portland State	Indigenous Identity and Sacred Landscapes in Khumbu, Nepal
Ian Bellows	UW	Seeing Red: Maoist Rumors, Hidden Transcripts, and the End of the 2014 Mount Everest Climbing Season

4:30-5:45 Formations of Gender, Chair: Tom Hunter, UBC

Ande Reisman	UW	“She is the house machine”: Men’s migration, Women’s household labor, and the tensions of shifting gender expectations in Nepal
Isha Sharma	SFU	Unconditional Cash Transfer Programs in India
Rachel Rothenberg	UW	Enlightened mothers, violent wives: Domestic modernity amongst Hindu nationalist women
Kesha Pradhan/Rob Bedi	UBC	Review of Psychological Literature on Choice Marriage in India
Andrew Wright	UW	Neither/Nor: Representations of Transgender and Non-Binary Identities in Hindi Cinema

5:45-6:30 Dinner

7:30 pm Gurvinder Singh film screening

UBC Robson Square, 800 Robson Street, Downtown Vancouver

“Anhe Godhe da Daan” (“Alms for a Blind Horse,” 2011): A film exploring the experience of marginality in contemporary Punjab, Winner of two National Awards (India), screened at Venice Film Festival, and award winner at the Abu Dhabi Film Festival.

Sunday March 4

2:30-4pm Panel at Surrey Art Centre on Indigenous Art of India

Surrey Art Gallery, 13750 88 Avenue, Surrey

Indigenous (Adivasi) art from India is a growing interest in the contemporary art world. Explore why and what it has to teach us in a discussion panel that corresponds with our feature exhibit [Many Visions. Many Visions: Art from Indigenous Communities in India](#). The speakers are Sirish Rao, Director of Indian Summer Festival, Vancouver; Indu Vashist, Executive Director of the South Asian Visual Arts Centre Toronto; and Katherine Hacker, Assistant Professor of Art History at the University of British Columbia. This conversation will be moderated by Jordan Strom, Surrey Art Gallery Curator of Exhibitions and Collections. A performance by Metro Vancouver Bengali folk artists from TAAN will kick off the event. Details: <http://www.surrey.ca/culture-recreation/25492.aspx>

4:30-7:45pm Final screening by Gurvinder Singh, and Main Event of the Harjit Kaur Sidhu Memorial Program

Surrey Centre Stage (Surrey City Hall), 3450 104 Ave, Surrey

“Chauthi Koot” (“The Fourth Direction,” 2015): A film portraying individuals and families negotiating a space between separatist and state forces amidst the violence of the 1980s in Punjab, India.

Screened at Cannes and award winner at the Singapore Film Festival.

Co-organized with the Gursharan Singh Memorial Lecture Committee. Awards for student Punjabi-language essay contest winners and for lifetime achievement to a BC-based Punjabi writer will be presented.

Details: <https://asia.ubc.ca/events/event/the-2018-harjit-kaur-sidhu-memorial-program/>