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BY JORDI BALTÀ PORTOLÉS

01 FEB 2019 - 28 APR 2019

Exhibition: "Raffles in Southeast Asia" | Singapore



Between 1 February and 28

April 2019, the **Asian Civilisations Museum**, in Singapore, an ASEMUS member, presents an exhibition entitled "**Raffles in Southeast Asia: Revisiting the Scholar and Statesman**".

Exhibition

Sir Stamford Raffles was an official with the British East India Company **stationed in Southeast Asia between 1805 and 1824**. He is known for establishing Singapore as a British port, as the author of *The History of Java*, and as a collector of natural history and cultural materials. **Opinions of Raffles have changed over time**. He has been viewed as a scholarly expert on the region, a progressive reformer, a committed imperialist, and even a plagiariser. In keeping with the Asian Civilisations Museum's mission to explore encounters and connections, **this exhibition presents a complex, multilayered picture of Raffles** while presenting the rich artistic

and cultural heritage of Java and the Malay world. The presentation of this exhibition is a **collaboration between the British Museum and the Asian Civilisations Museum**.

Other activities

The Asian Civilisations Museum has prepared a set of other activities accompanying the exhibition "Raffles in Southeast Asia", including the following:

- Contemporary artwork: "Natural Progression", a work by **artist Grace Tan**, focuses on natural materials and human action, with parallels to the themes addressed in the exhibition
- **After-hours curator tours** on 20 February, 20 March and 17 April, where the exhibition curators will introduce the exhibition and tell behind-the-scenes stories.
- The **ACM Symposium: Revisiting Raffles**, on 8-9 March, which will explore in greater depth the themes and topics presented in the show, involving speakers from several institutions.
- **Lectures** providing further background to the topics and historical context of the exhibition.
- A **catalogue** accompanying the exhibition, comprising five essays as well as full-colour illustrations of all the exhibited objects, has also been published.

Further information

For additional information about "Raffles in Southeast Asia: Revisiting the Scholar and Statesman", please visit <https://www.acm.org.sg/whatson/exhibitions/raffles-in-southeast-asia>

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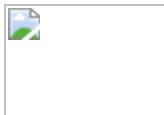
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