



Art of the Austronesians: The Legacy of Indo-Pacific Voyaging

April 30, 2016 • 11 am • Fowler Museum

A Special Tour by Senior Curator Roy Hamilton

Join us at our 10th program for a very special walk-thru of the first major exhibition in the US dealing with the arts and culture of the Austronesian peoples - from their prehistoric origins in Taiwan to successive migrations over millennia throughout the Philippines, Indonesia, the Pacific and beyond. Over 200 objects from the museum and private collections, some seen for the very first time, will depict the impact of these migrations in the region and show the common heritage linking the cultural “cousins” in the Austronesian family.

The flow of the exhibition follows the geography of Austronesian expansion, beginning in Taiwan. Currently sixteen groups of aboriginal Taiwanese are recognized. The shores of the Philippines were the first landing point of Austronesian migrants beyond Taiwan. The exhibition will include a selection of Philippine holdings, ranging from the rice guardian figures of the highland peoples of Luzon to the exquisite textiles of the deep south. Java and Bali, with their large populations and long histories of state formation, present complex pictures of the mixing of diverse influences, from Indic civilizations to Islam and European colonialism, all reworked to serve Austronesian cultural ends. While these migrants largely ignored PNG, the Austronesian and Papuan populations have nevertheless been in contact for 3000 years, exchanging technologies, language, culture, and genes. In Samoa and Tonga Austronesian speakers developed the first Polynesian societies of purely Austronesian origins.

A fascinating and must-see exhibition, please join us for Roy Hamilton’s final lecture!

RSVP by Noon April 27, 2016 to Feelie@ucla.edu