



Looking Forward to the Past



Jan. 26, 2020 • 2-4p pm • Fowler Museum A139

Join us for a double program when **Thomas Murray**, a distinguished dealer/collector/field researcher of Indonesian and SE Asian art shares his 40+ years of exploration and insights on art as a pre literate form of communication as well as shows the evolution of connoisseurship, from artifact to art on Himalayan, Mainland SE Asian, Indonesian and Polynesian sculpture in his new book. **Rarities: The Himalayas to Hawaii**. The book follows the artistic tradition of the ancient migratory and trade routes of the Austronesians, South-East Asian Bronze Age, and Hindu-Buddhist. Just as people, languages, religious belief systems, and technology can travel great distances and yet remain related owing to the conservative nature of indigenous societies, styles of art move as well, and sculptural styles can evolve. Certain recurring iconographic themes demonstrate how connected the shared human experience truly is, and how archetypes may be identified and tracked across great distances, whether by a process of cultural diffusion or as subliminal products of the shared collective unconscious. Murray takes up these ideas and contemplates the nature of aesthetic quality, religious philosophy, and the relation between art and the human condition in his lecture filled with artistic examples. Following Murray's quest into the Past, **Paul Greenwald**, a trial lawyer who has pioneered the use of videos to successfully settle cases, is also a passionate filmmaker who has travelled extensively to remote corners of the world, documenting the cultural traditions of indigenous peoples in the Present. The persistence of traditions and of cultural markers, be it weaving or dance ceremonies in the Lesser Sunda islands, will be seen in his Tribal Indonesia film. These two speakers aptly demonstrate that knowing our past through the arts is a path to understanding the present. Copies of **Rarities** will be available for signing by Murray in the reception that follows.

RSVP NOON January 24, 2020 to feelie@ucla.edu