



CLEVELAND MASTERWORK SERIES 5

REVEALING KRISHNA











REVEALING KRISHNA

Essays on the History, Context,
and Conservation of *Krishna Lifting
Mount Govardhan* from Phnom Da

EDITED BY SONYA RHIE MACE AND BERTRAND PORTE



The Cleveland Museum of Art in association with D Giles Limited, London

For
Robert L. Brown
with felicitations on his retirement

THIS PUBLICATION IS MADE POSSIBLE
IN PART BY THE ANDREW W. MELLON
FOUNDATION.

Published in association with D Giles Limited
on the occasion of the exhibition *Revealing
Krishna: Journey to Cambodia's Sacred Mountain*,
on view at the Cleveland Museum of Art from
November 14, 2021, to January 30, 2022.

© 2021 The Cleveland Museum of Art. All
rights reserved. No part of the contents of this
book may be reproduced, in whole or in part,
including illustrations, in any form (beyond
that permitted by Sections 107 and 108 of the
US Copyright Law and except by reviewers for
the public press), without written permission
from the Cleveland Museum of Art and D Giles
Limited. The works of art themselves may
be protected by copyright and may not be
reproduced in any form or medium without the
permission of the copyright holders.

Objects in the collection of the Cleveland
Museum of Art were photographed by museum
photographer Howard Agriesti. James Kohler
prepared the digital files. The museum holds
copyright to its images. When known, other
copyright holders and photographers are
acknowledged in the captions.

ISBN 978-1-911282-78-5

Library of Congress Control Number:
2021901144

NOTE TO READERS: When Cambodian
surnames precede given names, they appear in
capital letters in this book. All measurements
are in centimeters or meters; height precedes
width precedes depth.

Produced by the Cleveland Museum of Art
Thomas Barnard, Director of Publications
Exhibition managed by Mollie Armstrong
Publication managed by Rachel Beamer
Edited by Amy Bracken Sparks
Proofread by Kathleen Mills
Indexed by Jonathan Farr
Designed by Thomas Barnard
Maps by Carolyn K. Lewis
Color management by Maurizio Brivio
Printed and bound in Italy by Elcograf S.p.A.

The Cleveland Museum of Art
11150 East Boulevard
Cleveland, OH 44106-1797
www.clevelandart.org

First published in 2021 by GILES,
an imprint of D Giles Limited
66 High Street
Lewes, UK
BN7 1XG
www.gilesltd.com

front and back cover: *Krishna Lifting Mount
Govardhan*, c. 600. Southern Cambodia, Takeo
Province, Phnom Da. Sandstone; 203.1 x 68 x
55.5 cm. The Cleveland Museum of Art, John L.
Severance Fund, 1973.106

pages 2–3: Northeast peak of Phnom Da in
2019. Southern Cambodia, Takeo Province.
Photo: Konstanty Kulik

pages 4–5: Cave D of Phnom Da in 2019.
Southern Cambodia, Takeo Province. Photo:
Konstanty Kulik

10	Director's Foreword
15	Acknowledgments
20	Plates
28	Maps
33	The Cleveland Krishna: Image, Site, and Provenance Sonya Rhie Mace
61	A Conservation History of the Krishna at the Cleveland Museum of Art Beth Edelstein, Colleen Snyder, and Amaris Sturm
75	Stone Material Culture at Phnom Da: New Insights from Recent Scientific Investigations Christian Fischer
89	The Phnom Da Sculptor Birth and Conservation of a Statuary Bertrand Porte and CHEA Socheat
117	Expressing Royal Magnificence: The City of Angkor Borei and the Sacred Site of Phnom Da Pierre Baptiste
141	Note on Representations of Krishna in the Angkorian Period Thierry Zéphir
163	Nostalgia or Appropriation of the South? ANG Choulean
178	Appendix: Eight Gods of Phnom Da: Table of Discoveries and Transfers
182	Bibliography
188	Index
192	The Cleveland Museum of Art Board of Trustees