
The pages of this beautifully illustrated exhibition catalogue both bring together some of the Himalayas' most illustrious and well-known pieces, and display, for the first time, lesser-known gems from this mountainous world. These images, and the accompanying text, are organized into three cohesive sections, corresponding to specific geographic regions. These three sections, which constitute the bulk of the 308-page catalogue, are preceded by a general introduction to Himalayan art and followed by a helpful appendix furnishing translations of many of the Nepali, Kashmiri, and Tibetan inscriptions on the works. These insightful translations are rendered by three eminent scholars: Amy Heller, Oskar von Hinuber, and Gautama V. Vajracharya.

This elegant catalogue provides a rich venue for acquainting a newcomer with this complex and vast body of Himalayan work; the initiated, however, will find that parts of the catalogue, especially the introduction, tend toward oversimplified ideas about sacred art, the artist,...