

The Department of Philosophy, Religion, and Liberal Studies
and
The Department of Art Present

Mina Choksi

Thursday, April 27, Peabody Auditorium
2:00-3:00 PM, Calligraphy Workshop
3:30-4:45 PM, Public Lecture on Jain Art and Philosophy



Jain Svetambara Tirthankara in Meditation

“At the heart of daily Jain religious observance is the veneration of the image of the jina, the conceptual basis of which is the pan-Indian ideal of the yogic ascetic. This ancient practice, celebrated in the Vedas (the most ancient Hindu texts), equates the acquisition of spiritual wisdom with the pursuit of advanced forms of meditation and withdrawal from material comforts. In Jainism, the twenty-four liberated souls who are recognized as having attained this elevated state are worshipped as tirthankaras (ford crossers). This jina-tirthankara, seated on a bejeweled throne cushion, was probably intended to represent Mahavira, the historical founder of Jainism, a near contemporary of the Buddha Shakyamuni in the fifth century B.C.” (from the Met website)

Born and raised in a Jain family, Minaxi Choksi currently studies under the guidance of Jain Monks in her pursuit of greater understanding of Jain principles, philosophy, and art. Reviving the Heritage Art of Meditative Calligraphy: Mina’s experience in fine and graphic arts includes Glass Fusion and Heritage Arts. She has trained with Master Calligraphers from around the globe for over 15 years in Latin scripts, and now utilizes that foundation as she develops Indic Calligraphy with a special focus on Brahmi, the most ancient script. As Art Ambassador and founder of KalaCircle at the Jain Center of Southern California, Mina’s mission is to offer a comprehensive Art program to connect with the community and to manifest the Jain virtues of compassion, universal love, and equanimity.



For more information, please contact the Department of Philosophy, Religion, and Liberal Studies at (478) 445-5221.

