

Media Release

The Hon Steve Dimopoulos MP
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events
Minister for Creative Industries



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NEW EXHIBITION CELEBRATES INDIAN CRAFT AND CREATIVITY

The vibrant craft and creativity of some of India's most exciting artists and textile designers are now on show at Melbourne Museum as part of a new exhibition – *Sutr Santati: Then. Now. Next. Stories of India woven in thread.*

The Australian premiere exhibition showcases an array of colourful pieces providing a unique perspective on India's famed textiles tradition, and shining a spotlight on the innovation and artistry world-renowned contemporary designers and craftspeople.

Sutr Santati means 'the continuation of a thread' and the exhibition was developed to celebrate 75 years of India's independence.

The 75 featured works range from colourful, large-scale tapestries to intricate embroidery and handpainted silk. Appealing to art, design, fashion and craft enthusiasts, the exhibition explores how India's current-day textile designers and artisans are redefining the boundaries of traditional textile art and pushing it to new heights.

A creative partnership between Melbourne Museum and the India's Abheraj Baldota Foundation, Melbourne audiences will be the first people outside of India to see many of the works.

Sutr Santati: Then. Now. Next. Stories of India woven in thread continues Museums Victoria's proud reputation for giving visitors of all ages the chance to learn about the world around them - from exploring other cultures and traditions to learning about millions of years of history and the latest scientific discoveries.

Already this year, Melbourne Museum has opened the new Gandel Gondwana Garden which explores how Victoria's natural environment has changed from prehistoric times to now, and next week Museum will see the Australian premiere exhibition *Fantastic Beasts™: The Wonder of Nature*

Visitors can see the *Sutr Santati* exhibition as part of general admission to Melbourne Museum. For further information visit the museums victoria.com.au/melbournemuseum.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Creative Industries Steve Dimopoulos

"Melbourne is the home of arts and culture in Australia and we're proud to back international exhibitions that provide another reason to visit our city."

"The bright and intricate artistry of Sutr Santati will enthral visitors and also highlight Victoria's large and diverse Indian community and the strong bonds we share."

Quotes attributable to Museums Victoria CEO Lynley Crosswell

"The exhibition provides a rare opportunity for our visitors to experience these exquisitely designed and crafted pieces."

"Melbourne Museum is excited to bring these works to Melbourne, and Australia, for the first time and celebrate the unique heritage of India's textile traditions."