



# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to all our friends and colleagues, and I wish you a prosperous and blessed 2020.

Towards the end of every year, the reminiscence of past events and happenings throughout the year brings me a memory of all the exhibitions that we have launched, events that we have organised, refurbishments that we have carried out, as well as new insights and displays that have added more meaning to our permanent galleries. Above all, I sincerely appreciate the staff that have played vital roles in the development of our museum, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank and wish them a prosperous year ahead.

The museum this year and particularly in the last quarter of the year has been very active with various events, exhibitions, lectures, conferences, and new acquisitions. The museum had a role in much of what was happening around Southeast Asia, whether it was the recent Kuala Lumpur Summit (KL Summit 2019), or the Second International Conference on Mosque Architecture (ICMA 2019), in collaboration with the Abdullatif Al Fozan Award for Mosque Architecture (AFAMA), that took place in November 2019.

On the international front, the museum has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Japan's Tokyo National Museum (TNM) with the aim of sending a major exhibition to Tokyo in 2021; another MoU with the International Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan (IIAU); a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with the National Library and Archives of Egypt (NLAE); as well as with two renowned universities in Malaysia: the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) and Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM). Accordingly, our new year ahead will be full of new inspiring and stimulating projects and exhibitions.

As we approach a new decade, the strength of IAMM is certainly its collection, accumulating over the past 23 years. In every gallery, purple labels next to these new artefacts indicate that they are among our latest acquisitions. Among the entire artefacts on display, the new acquisitions stand out for their uniqueness, importance, and exquisiteness. We are also proud of our Scholar's Library's collection, including its special and rare editions, which is also expanding by the day.

Among our achievements is the outstanding joint exhibition that runs at the British Museum entitled 'Inspired by the East: How the Islamic world influenced Western art'. This exhibition will return to IAMM in 2020, and will occupy our two special galleries. Abundant exciting programmes are lined up, including a showcase of a series of archival photographs, an exhibition introducing the Islamic calligraphy, as well as the interesting narration of the history of Islamic coins. We look forward to have you with us in the coming year and do follow us on our social media pages for the latest news, happenings, and updates.

With this, I wish you all the best for 2020.

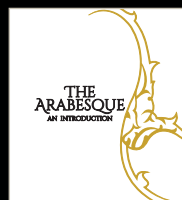
Syed Mohamad Albukhary



A Kashan lustre pottery vessel, Persia, 12th century, collection of Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

18<sup>th</sup> OCT – MID AUGUST 2020



Exhibition:  
*The Arabesque: An Introduction*  
The British Museum

10<sup>th</sup> OCT 2019 – 26<sup>th</sup> JAN 2020

Exhibition:  
*Inspired by the East: How the Islamic world influenced Western Art*  
The British Museum



21<sup>st</sup> NOV 2019 – 31<sup>st</sup> JAN 2020



Exhibition & Conference:  
*Maqamat – Abdullatif Al Fozan Award for Mosque Architecture (AFAMA)*  
Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia

13<sup>th</sup> DEC 2019 – 13<sup>th</sup> MAR 2020

Exhibition:  
*Hajj Journey Through the Ages*  
Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia



21<sup>st</sup> JAN – 31<sup>st</sup> MAY 2020



Exhibition:  
*An Introduction to Islamic Calligraphy*  
Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia

16<sup>th</sup> FEB – 31<sup>st</sup> MAY 2020

Exhibition:  
*The Coin Chronicles: Numismatics of the Islamic World*  
Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia



1<sup>st</sup> JUL – 30<sup>th</sup> NOV 2020



Exhibition:  
*Inspired by the East: How the Islamic world influenced Western Art*  
Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia



# LONDON WITNESSED THE OFFICIAL LAUNCHING OF INSPIRED BY THE EAST



*Yang Berbahagia Puan Sri Sharifah Zarah Albukhary, Trustee of the Albukhary Foundation, delivering her speech during the official launching of the exhibition.*



*Admiring the paintings could bring oneself to a step back in time that emphasises the influential Islamic world.*

If one were to talk about art history, more often than not Western art would be the dominant feature of that conversation. Western art is often regarded as independent, away from the art of the rest of the world. The exhibition of various objects, ranging from ceramics to paintings, glass, jewellery and clothing, as well as contemporary art, brings forth the influence and exchange from East to West.

This exhibition provides a useful counterpoint to the tired old belief that Orientalist art was representative of the colonisation

of an extensive part of the East. The narrative of the 'other' may well have been rampant in Western literature, describing their neighbours in North Africa and the Middle East. However, in the visual arts it is a far more complicated story. The depiction of what was then known by the neutral term of 'the Orient' was often filled with admiration of both the people and the culture of Islam.

Following the opening of The Albukhary Foundation Gallery of the Islamic World, the recent *'Inspired by the East: How the Islamic world influenced Western art'* at the British Museum was successfully opened on 6th October 2019. The special exhibition is a collaboration between IAMM and the British Museum which highlights how the art from the Islamic world has long been part of Western art.

This exhibition reveals how the conversation between East and West centuries ago had influenced the West. The narrative should be more of the East as 'another' rather than the 'other' for the West.

The official launching was witnessed by many dignitaries including the Albukhary Foundation Board of Trustees, Tan Sri Dr Rais Yatim, and Dr Hartwig Fischer, the Director of the British Museum. The exhibition in London runs from 10th October 2019 to 26th January 2020. The exhibition will travel to IAMM in mid-2020.



## ARCHITECTURE GALLERIES IN MUSEUMS: THE FUTURE



*Connecting art and architecture through the architecture gallery helps document the Islamic architecture historically while still maintaining the connection with its arts and crafts, says Dr Heba.*

This paper was researched and presented by Dr Heba Nayel Barakat, Nurul Iman Rusli and Muhammad Syukri Mohd Shairi at the *International Conference on Mosque Architecture (ICMA)* on 26th November 2019.

Museums and galleries of Islamic art play a vital role in setting the standards for future mosque architecture. The paper ventures into the importance of having an architecture gallery in museums that would narrate and showcase the development of architectural edifices—from mosques to madrasas to mausoleums—represented from all around the Islamic world, covering a span of more than a millennium. A gallery as such provides a key set of information that architects, scholars, historians and the public would find essential to the understanding of design elements, spatial functions, building typologies, technological breakthroughs and obstacles of the Islamic architectural tradition. In showcasing the history and development of such edifices, the architecture gallery also documents the history of Islamic architecture and ties it to the arts and crafts that emerged to complement a certain architectural construction. As a cultural institution, the valuable data that a museum keeps could also contribute greatly to the fields of preservation, conservation and even the reconstruction of historical architectural works. More



*IAMM's Head of Curatorial Affairs Department, Dr Heba Nayel Barakat discussing on incorporating architecture galleries in future museums.*

importantly, through the range of design solutions exhibited in an architecture gallery, narrated through models as well as artefacts, many issues and taboos related to architectural style, scale, materiality, permissibility of designs, and spatial functions could be addressed. Members of the public would be able to familiarise themselves with the degree and extent of the architectural traditions of Islam; the public, therefore, would become more equipped and prepared, as users, clients or





*Prof. Emeritus Tan Sri Dr. Mohd. Kamal Hassan, former IUM Rector, delivering his keynote speech on 'Expanding the Spiritual-Social Functions of Mosques in Southeast Asian Cities'.*

simply the audience, at accepting newer or more innovative design approaches in future Islamic architecture, particularly mosque architecture. Architects and designers, on the other hand, could also be exposed to a longer range of various traditional concepts that could guide them in designing well-balanced, innovative structures that complement the demands and requirements of the twenty-first century.

The paper concluded the importance of analysing and understanding the scope of having and curating Islamic architecture galleries as part of Islamic-art museums. The following deductions are thus reached:

1. The curation of the architecture gallery, to the architect, provides an historical background of Islamic forms and decorative material.
2. It presents outstanding examples of architecture models that, upon analysing, are an invaluable architectural innovation and ingenious contribution to the development of architecture at large.
3. It combats limitations and restrictions in designing future mosques and religious edifices.
4. It supplements visual models with texts to widen the scope of architectural knowledge.
5. It brings different types of Islamic architectural forms in one space to the visitor in an appealing manner.
6. It prepares the audience and the target groups to see the diversity and accept the diversity of Islamic cultures.
7. It challenges the audience by showing the simplest to the most complex of monumentality in an equitable manner — representing the multiple tastes and preferences in architecture by societies of Islamic cultures.



*Architects, environmental designers, historians, academicians, curators, and art enthusiasts flock together to discuss about 'Future Mosque Architecture: Design and Functions' at ICMA 2019.*

*The full paper has been published as part of a book titled "Mosque Architecture: Present Issues and Future Ideas," jointly published by Abdullatif Al Fozan Award for Mosque Architecture and Institut Terjemahan & Buku Malaysia (ITBM) for the Second International Conference on Mosque Architecture (ICMA 2019), held at the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia. The publication is edited by Prof Dr Mashary A. Al-Naim and Dr Hani M Al Huneidi of AFAMA, as well as Dr Noor Hanita Abdul Majid of the Kulliyah of Architecture and Environmental Design (KAED), International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM).*

*The paper was also presented at the Conference by Dr Heba Nayel Barakat as part of the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia's participation in the Conference.*

## MAQAMAT – ABDULLATIF AL FOZAN AWARD FOR MOSQUE ARCHITECTURE (AFAMA)

The Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM), in collaboration with Abdullatif Al Fozan Award for Mosque Architecture (AFAMA) recently showcased the Maqamat: Photography Exhibition in IAMM's Open Space Gallery.

The exhibition displayed the twenty-seven mosques shortlisted by the Award as it enters its third cycle of 2017–2020. The twenty-seven mosques were shortlisted from hundreds of mosque nominees from all over the world that had undergone close evaluation based on aesthetics, cultural impact, and sustainability criterion.

Mosques from Russia to Sudan, from Saudi Arabia to Bangladesh, from Ghana to Indonesia, the exhibition mostly contemporarily designed and built with each underlining the aesthetics of mosque architecture.

Creativity and innovation were the highlights for architects, designers and visitors who were able to enjoy invigorating, new ways of thinking and seeing mosque architecture.



*HRH Prince Sultan visiting the gallery after officiating the exhibition and three-day international conference at IAMM.*

The exhibition and conference was officiated by HRH Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz and is open to the public from 21st November 2019 until 31st January 2020 at the Open Space Gallery.

## THE LAUNCHING OF 'HAJJ JOURNEY THROUGH THE AGES' EXHIBITION AT THE ISLAMIC ARTS MUSEUM MALAYSIA



*Founder and Trustee of the Barakat Trust, Mr Tarik Alireza, narrating the Hajj journey to the guest of honour, YB Puan Hajjah Fuziah Salleh.*

Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia, in collaboration with the Barakat Trust, has successfully launched an exhibition, "Hajj Journey Through the Ages," beginning 13th December 2019 and ending 13th March 2020. The exhibition explores the history of the Hajj,

the pilgrimage to the Holy City of Makkah, and the performance of its rituals through archival photographs, vividly inspiring oil paintings, and historical accounts. The reference photographs, mostly taken from the archives of the Barakat Trust and Royal Geographic Society, relate to scenes depicted in the paintings. The descriptions of each scene are provided by a variety of historical 'voices'. Evocative quotations of first-hand witnesses, from the earliest Islamic historians and travellers, through to later Eastern and Western travellers, are used in addition to verses from the Holy Qur'an and traditional sayings of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW). This exhibition presents a series of forty-four original oil paintings by Saudi Arabian artist Reem Nazir. Through her experienced brush strokes and her delicate eyes we invite you to enjoy this exhibition 'Hajj Journey Through the Ages'.

The exhibition was officially launched on 13th December 2019 by YB Puan Hajjah Fuziah Salleh, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia with the attendance of Syed Mohamad Albukhary, the Director of Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia, Tarik Alireza, Founder & Trustee of the Barakat Trust and Seif El Rashidi, the Director of the Barakat Trust.

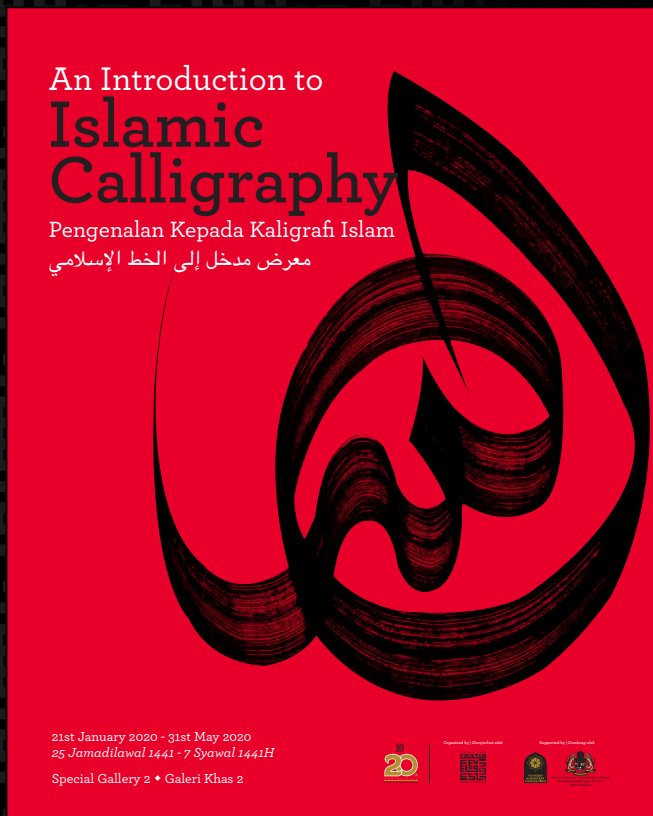


# ISLAMIC ARTS MUSEUM MALAYSIA REACHING THE FAR EAST THROUGH JAPAN

July 2021 is the eagerly awaited time for the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia (IAMM) to hold its exclusive travelling exhibition to Japan, which will be showcased at the heart of the Tokyo National Museum, Toyokan for eight months. Entitled "14 Dynasties: The Art and Culture of the Muslim World", it is among the largest travelling exhibitions ever sent from IAMM to any museum abroad. The importance of the arts and culture spanning more than 1,200 years, from fourteen key dynasties of the Islamic world, is highlighted through carefully selected collections including the unique Malay daggers (*keris*), jewelled objects from the Ottoman world, illuminated Qur'ans, tiles and ceramic plates with refined technological advancements, beautiful jewellery from the Indian subcontinent as well as a signed and dated astrolabe from the 17th century. A memorandum of collaboration signed on 1st November 2019 at IAMM marked a positive kick-start for more future collaborations between the two institutions.



## AN INTRODUCTION TO ISLAMIC CALLIGRAPHY EXHIBITION



IAMM begins 2020 with *An Introduction to Islamic Calligraphy*, running from 21st January to 31st May. The exhibition was first held at the Art Gallery New South Wales (AGNSW), Sydney, Australia as a travelling exhibition. It presents one of the most important historical developments of the Islamic world, which took place over a span of a millennium, covering a vast geographical area from the Middle East to the Iberian Peninsula and expanded to Southeast Asia and China. The art of calligraphy highlights its vital role in the design of both religious and everyday arts and crafts, as well as in developing a distinctive visual culture inspired by Islam. Major calligraphy styles such as *Kufic*, *Naskh*, *Thuluth*, *Muhaqqaq*, *Rayhani*, *Tawqi*, *Riqa'*, *Nasta'liq* and *Maghribi* scripts were developed over the years by prominent calligraphers and were used as ornament in art objects, glorifying the Word of God. Today, contemporary calligraphers continue to explore every realm of calligraphy, shedding new light on Islamic calligraphy. The returning of the exhibition will showcase an addition of 73 new artefacts that have never been displayed before.

## MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION (MOC) SIGNING BETWEEN IAMM AND THE NATIONAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES OF EGYPT (NLAE)

The Memorandum of Cooperation was signed on 13th November 2019, witnessed by Dr. Heba Nayel Barakat, Head of the Curatorial Affairs Department, and the Egyptian Ambassador to Malaysia, on

behalf of NLAE. The MoC is emphasising on manuscript research, conservation of manuscripts, and exchange of expertise between both institutions.



## MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) SIGNING BETWEEN IAMM AND INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA (IIUM)

Following the successful *Al-Tibb: Healing Traditions in Islamic Medical Manuscripts* exhibition in 2018, a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) was signed on 6th December 2019 between IAMM and the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM).

IIUM was represented by its Rector, Professor Emeritus Tan Sri Dato Dzulkifli Abdul Razak. The MoA is focusing on the digitisation of Malay medical manuscripts.





## IAMM STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION WITH UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA (UiTM)

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between IAMM and Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), focusing on museum educational projects, was signed on 10th December 2019, marking towards a more positive collaboration between both institutions. This

MoU is strengthening the long history of collaborations between IAMM and UiTM in terms of research, exhibitions, and educational programmes.



## IAMM SPREADING ITS WINGS IN CENTRAL ASIA

21st December 2019 marked a memorable event which is the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing between the Albukhary Foundation and the International Islamic Academy of

Uzbekistan (IIAU). The MoC aims to develop a cooperation in the field of arts and culture, research, exhibition, and publication.





## MANIFESTASI PERDANA SENI KHAT (MPSK) 2020

**Date** : 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020

**Venue** : IAMM

IAMM is proud to host Manifestasi Perdana Seni Khat 2020. The event, which will take place on 4th April 2020, is an arena where Khat enthusiasts sit together and demonstrate their talents in this age-old Islamic art. With the number of participants increasing each time the competition is carried out, it is a sure sign that this is indeed something that all Khat enthusiasts are looking forward to.

This competition is still going strong due to the rising quantity of home-grown talent, which is a good indicator that this art is progressing well. We also believe that by organising such a competition, it will be a pathway to raise the potential of Islamic calligraphy globally.



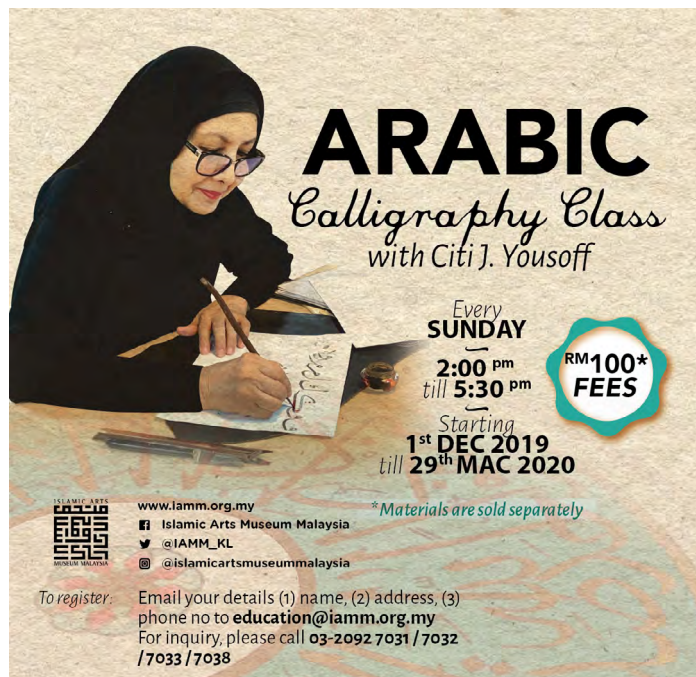
## THE FASCINATING WORLD OF CALLIGRAPHY

**Date** : Starting from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019 - 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Venue** : Education Workshop, IAMM

Arabic calligraphy is an art that should be preserved and cherished; thus the museum plays a major role in conserving its beauty by organising this workshop. The much-awaited calligraphy class has already started with an initial participation of 30 calligraphy enthusiasts from all walks of life. The class managed to entice everyone, young and old. With a variety of calligraphic patterns to master, Citi J. Yousoff taught them so well, the class attracts existing students from the previous class sessions.

In addition to that, IAMM is also proud to organise a special class, Kursus Asas Seni Khat 2020. The course comprises five main Arabic calligraphy styles namely, *Naskh*, *Kufi*, *Riq'ah*, *Thuluth* and *Zuhurfah*. There will also be lessons on calligraphy applied to canvas. The class will be conducted by experienced calligraphy artists and instructors.



**ARABIC**  
Calligraphy Class  
with Citi J. Yousoff

Every **SUNDAY**  
2:00 pm  
till 5:30 pm

Starting  
**1st DEC 2019**  
till **29th MAR 2020**

**RM100\* FEES**

\*Materials are sold separately

**www.iamm.org.my**  
Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia  
@IAMM\_KL  
@islamicartsmuseummalaysia

To register: Email your details (1) name, (2) address, (3) phone no to [education@iamm.org.my](mailto:education@iamm.org.my)  
For inquiry, please call 03-2092 7031 / 7032 / 7033 / 7038





# GEOMETRIC PATTERNS IN ISLAMIC ARTS

**Date : 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

**Venue : Education Workshop, IAMM**

On 4th December 2019, we organised a special workshop on Geometric Patterns in Islamic Art. It is a workshop specially devised for year 9 (13 – 14 year-old) students of St Joseph Institute. The workshop was conducted by Rekha Verma.

The programme is designed with the aim of nurturing awareness in students to a segment of the Islamic decorative arts that is the beauty of the Islamic geometric patterns. With the emphasis on visual art in the context of displays in the museum galleries and historical explanation, students will explore a variety of art forms, designs, patterns and their relationship to history as inspiration for artists' works. Through the tours to the museum galleries, workshops and individual/group research projects, students will gain skills and understanding of the beauty and importance of the different Islamic arts in the development of human civilisation.

## MAMLUK ART WORKSHOP

**Date : 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 (Saturday)**

**Venue : Education Workshop, IAMM**

The Education Department of IAMM proudly brought forward the long-awaited activity on Mamluk art. Parents have been looking forward to this activity as it is where their kids get to work on their creativity. This special workshop focused on creating a masterpiece based on the magnificent centuries-old art.

The workshop is especially tailored for kids aged 10 to 17 years old, as a means to instil in them a love of both history and art. It was held during the annual school holiday for two hours.

Participants were also introduced to the history of the Mamluks. With a fee of just RM30, they their holidays were well spent and productive.





# EDUCATION PROGRAMME LINE-UP (JANUARY – MARCH 2020)



## JANUARY

### 1. **Storytelling & Interactive session by a Hajj**

Date : 18th January 2020, Saturday

Time : 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

Venue : Briefing Area, IAMM

## FEBRUARY

### 1. **Arabic Calligraphy Introductory Course 2020**

Date : 8th February – 18th April 2020,  
Every Saturday

Time : 10.00 am - 5.30 pm

Venue : Education Workshop, IAMM

### 2. **Maghribi Calligraphy Workshop**

Date : 16th February 2020, Sunday

Time : 10.00 am - 5.30 pm

Venue : Education Workshop, IAMM

## MARCH

### 1. **Digital Calligraphy for Commercial Workshop**

Date : 8th March 2020, Sunday

Time : 10.00 am – 1.00 pm

Venue : Education Workshop, IAMM

### 2. **School Holiday Fun at the Museum**

'Make Your Own Coins Workshop'

Date : 15th March 2020, Sunday

Time : 10.30 am - 12.30 pm

Venue : Education Workshop, IAMM

### 3. **Special Weekend Workshop**

'It's Role Play Time! Ready for Hajj'

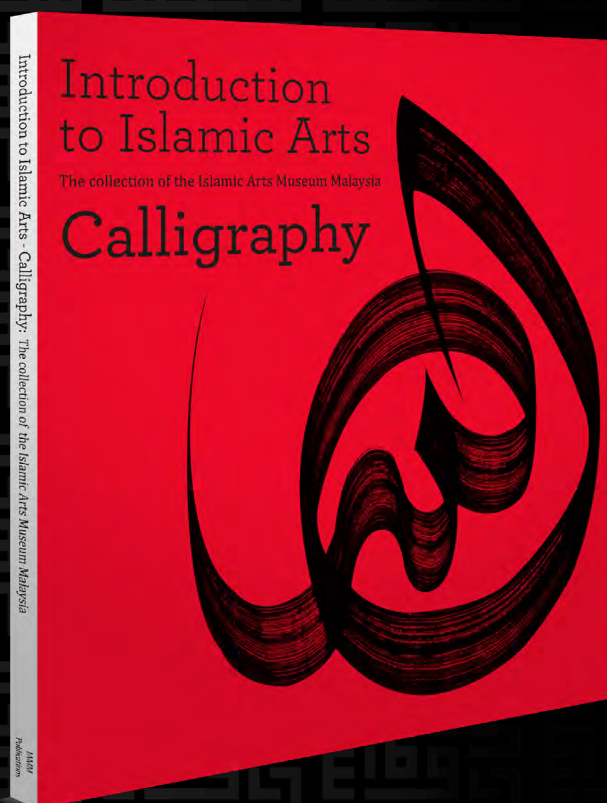
Date : 21st March 2020, Saturday

Time : 3.00 pm - 4.30 pm

Venue : Briefing Area, IAMM



## INTRODUCTION TO ISLAMIC ARTS CALLIGRAPHY: *The Collection of the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia*



**Introduction to Islamic Arts – Calligraphy: The collection of the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia** presents in four sections some of the most important historical developments and artistic trends, as well as selected masterpieces produced within the Islamic world, that took place over more than 1000 years, covering a vast geographical area from West Africa to Southeast Asia and China. Special attention is given to calligraphy, highlighting the role it played in the design of both religious and everyday arts and crafts, as well as in developing a distinctive visual culture inspired by Islam. The publication features over 50 artefacts with exquisite calligraphy by renowned scribes from royal and private ateliers representing the most important script styles produced during the apogee of Islamic dynasties. It also introduces calligraphy produced on paper, engraved and enamelled on metal, vibrant on ceramics, carved on wood, lacquered on papier-mâché and embellishing sacred textiles. The collection takes us to the 20th century and presents calligraphy in the contemporary and modern world. This Introduction to Islamic Arts – Calligraphy: The collection of the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia is basic yet a useful resource to newcomers to this field as well as art historians and experts.

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