



Gitagovinda

India's Great Love Story

Edited by Caroline Widmer

Edited by Museum Rietberg

ISBN	9783897905757
Publisher	Arnoldsche Art Publishers
Binding	Hardback
Territory	UK, US, Eastern Europe, France, Benelux, Japan, South Korea, Africa, South America & Ireland exclusive. South Africa, N&M East, China non-exclusive
Size	203 mm x 300 mm
Pages	152 Pages
Illustrations	57 color
Price	£39.00

- The most famous love story from India, accompanied by magnificent illustrations
- This book's landscape format shows the paintings in their original size
- Accompanies an exhibition at Museum Rietberg, Zurich, Switzerland, 24 October 2019 - 16 February 2020

The tale of the shepherd girl Radha and the Hindu god Krishna is probably the most famous love story in India. Written by Jayadeva at the end of the twelfth century, the **Gitagovinda** narrates the highs and lows of Radha and Krishna's relationship. As a vivid metaphor for the human yearning for god, the work is today closely associated in India with the religiosity of Krishna. In the eighteenth century, in the former princely residence of Guler, the artist family of Nainsuhk and Manaku created the outstanding picture series of the second Guler *Gitagovinda* of 1775/80, which recounts the love story with an unparalleled elegance. This book retells the story using selected pieces from this series (printed in original size) and whisks the reader off into the atmospheric world of Indian miniature painting and poetry. This book accompanies an exhibition at Museum Rietberg, Zurich, 24 October 2019 – 16 February 2020.

Text in English and German.

Caroline Widmer has been a curator of miniature paintings from India and Pakistan at Museum Rietberg, Switzerland, since 2017. After obtaining her PhD in religious studies (majoring in Indology) at the University of Zurich, Switzerland, she became a post-doc scholarship holder and devoted herself to researching Indian painting.