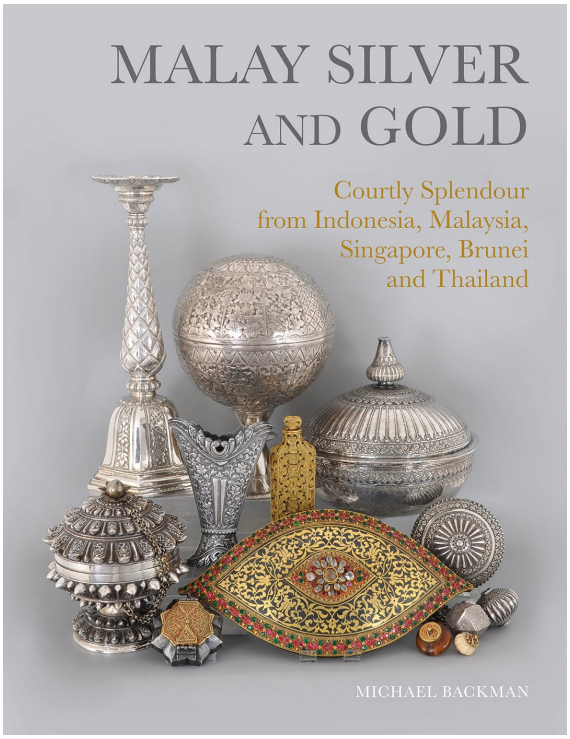
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Malay Silver and Gold

Courtly Splendour from Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei and Thailand

Michael Backman

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- Ideal for collectors and curators, this is the most comprehensive book ever published on the silver and gold ware of the Malay people of Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, southern Thailand and Brunei

'… With its hundreds of beautiful photographs and outstanding research, it is a magnificent and eye-opening contribution that tells not only the story of the silver and gold items fashioned by Malay artisans but the Malay peoples themselves.' — **Seif El Rashidi, Islamic scholar, author & Director, Barakat Trust**

This ground breaking new book is the first study of Malay silver and gold to take chronology and place production into serious consideration, leading to a much more nuanced understanding of developments across Southeast Asia. The exciting findings include the identification as Malay of certain exquisite gold filigree pieces held in august collections worldwide.' — **Annabel Teh Gallop, Head, Southeast Asia Department, British Library**

At last, here is an excellent publication that does full justice to the scope and beauty of Malay silver and gold…' — **Sylvia Fraser-Lu, Author**

This beautifully produced and illustrated book, ideal for collectors and curators, is the most comprehensive book ever published on the silver and gold ware of the Malay people of Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, southern Thailand and Brunei.

Hundreds of color photographs of previously unpublished items, and meticulous research, are used to tell not just the story of Malay gold and silver, but that of the Malay people, with reference to their princely regalia, banqueting items, betel sets, jewelry, silver and gold-encased weapons, and other items of adornment and finery. In addition, previously unrecognized gold items made by the Malays for the 18th century European market are identified, and other items of silverware now in museum collections and believed to be Malay are shown not to be.

Michael Backman also shows how 19th century collecting for museums and private collections, and colonialism itself, all distorted our view of Malay gold and silver today, if not the Malays themselves, and also influenced what was produced. He weaves a complex story, and in so doing reveals the Malays' rich, dynamic and sophisticated legacy, one that is little understood today.

'Malay Silver and Gold is the first book on this topic to have been published in over a hundred years. Rightly, it restores the Malays to the very centre of the commercial history and material culture setting of their region whilst placing them in the broader context of the 'Islamic world'. With its hundreds of beautiful photographs and outstanding research, it is a magnificent and eye-opening contribution that tells not only the story of the silver and gold items fashioned by Malay artisans but the Malay peoples themselves.' **– Seif El Rashidi, Islamic scholar, author & Director, Barakat Trust**

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'At last, here is an excellent publication that does full justice to the scope and beauty of Malay silver and gold. Michael Backman describes and illustrates the full range of Malay silver and gold work with superlative photographs. A great contribution to a very important, but hitherto not well understood Southeast Asia craft!' **-Sylvia Fraser-Lu, Author**

Michael Backman is an art historian, economist & writer. He is the author of nine books that cover all aspects of Asia – from art and culture to politics & business, including the *Malay Silver and Gold: Courtly Splendour from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and Brunei'*, a political biography of a Malaysian politician, and *'Asian Eclipse'*, named by *The Economist* as one of its books of the year, and which was nominated by the then Thai prime minister as a book that 'all Thais should read'. He has had regular newspaper columns in Australia and Singapore, and is the founder of an eponymous Asian antiques gallery in central London which has sold to more than 40 museums worldwide. He has lived and worked in Australia, France, Indonesia and now lives permanently in London.





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