



Silence Speaks

Masks, Shadows and Puppets from Asia

Francisco Capelo

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- Travel through the many rituals and performances traditions in twelve regions and countries of Asia with 270 objects from the Francisco Capelo Collection

Silence Speaks: Masks, Shadows and Puppets from Asia is a travel through the many rituals and performances traditions in twelve regions and countries of Asia: Himalayas, (Tibet, Bhutan, Nepal), India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia (Java, Bali), Vietnam and Japan. Masks, Shadows and Puppets are essential for the enactment of rituals and performances. These surprising, fragile objects of great beauty are not viewed or used as a disguising or as simple forms of entertainment. Often they signal the wearer's willingness to be possessed and receive a spiritual visitation. Their performance is often a welcoming and pleasing ceremony for unseen audiences of unearthly spirits. These traditions are framed by ancient and sacred narratives that have been received since the first Millennium C.E., via land and sea from distant lands. Together with the dance movements and gestures they use, these ancient narratives were gradually adapted by the ancestors of the populations now living in the countries that this book visits. ***Silence Speaks: Masks, Shadows and Puppets from Asia*** illustrates 270 objects from the Francisco Capelo Collection, assembled in the past twenty years and now part of the permanent collection of the Museu da Marioneta in Lisbon.