

# Exhibit dedicated to Ramayana to open at Met

By A STAFF WRITER

The Metropolitan Museum of Art of New York will host "Epic India: Scenes from the Ramayana" in the Florence and Herbert Irving Galleries for the Arts of South and Southeast Asia, Indian Painting from March 31 to Sept. 27.

According to the Met Web site, the story of Rama provides the subject matter for an important genre of Indian paintings. The exhibition will include paintings and sculptures about Rama, and a newly acquired painted cotton textile depicting a scene from the epic, the Web site said.

The works on display will be drawn largely from the Met's collections, with loans from private collections, and will represent the major schools of northern Indian painting, from Mughal court manuscript folios to Hindu court



painting commissioned for the rulers of the Punjab, the Met said in a press release. A variety of educational programs will accompany the installation, including programs for teen audiences and a teacher workshop.

Collections of the Met, one of the world's largest and finest art museums founded in 1870, include over 2 million works spanning 5,000 years of world culture.

The collections include Hindu bronzes from the Chola period (ninth to 13th centuries); Kashmiri- and Pala-period sculptures (sixth to 13th centuries); Indian court paintings from the 16th through the 19th centuries; Nepalese religious imagery from the eighth through the 19th centuries; and sculptures of Parvati, Ganesha, Krishna and Durga, among others.

For more information, visit [www.metmuseum.org](http://www.metmuseum.org)

## Emory University displays work of author Salman Rushdie

FROM NEWS DISPATCHES

Salman Rushdie's archive, housed at the Emory University Library in Atlanta, opened to the public for the first time Feb. 26, offering an up-close and personal view of his life and career.

The celebrated writer's computer files, private journals, notebooks, photographs and manuscripts provide insight into his creative process, campaigns for human rights and celebrity, the Emory University Web site said.

The archive, curated by Emory's Associate Professor of English and Director of Asian Studies Deepika Bahri, employs multimedia platforms to tell Rushdie's story.

On display are e-mails and written correspondence from the 1970s through 2006, and the exhibit includes letters between Rushdie and people such as U2's Bono and then-Sen. Barack Obama, the Web site said.

"From the moment I agreed to do this, I knew it was going to be sort of embarrassing," Rushdie told the Atlanta Journal during a media tour of the exhibit.

"The biggest issue for me in the whole discussion with Emory had to do with privacy and the boundaries of privacy ... it's not just my privacy at stake, but also other people."

Beginning in 1989, Rushdie lived in hiding for a decade after Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, ordered Muslims to kill the author of "The Satanic



Verses," believing the fiction work was an insult to Islam.

Emory's archive, which is sponsored by the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, helps shape for viewers the time Rushdie spent underground.

At that time, Rushdie wrote the

children's book "Haroun and the Sea of Stories" and the novels "The Moor's Last Sigh" and "The Ground Beneath Her Feet." The 62-year-old is also known for works including "Midnight's Children," which won the British Booker Prize in 1981 and is now being made into a movie.

According to the Atlanta Journal, Emory officials first approached Rushdie about a potential archive when he gave the Richard Ellmann Lectures in Modern Literature at the university in 2004.

He later joined the university as a distinguished writer in residence and teaches at Emory at least four weeks each year. For details, visit <http://web.library.emory.edu/> or call 404-727-6861.

## Jaipur Jewelers embellish Sports Illustrated models

By A STAFF WRITER

New Jersey's Jaipur Jewelers is enjoying the spotlight after jewelry designed by the company was featured in January's Sports Illustrated issue.

Models in the magazine's popular swimsuit issue - Sonia Dara, Julie Ordon, Hillary Rhoda and Esti Ginzberg - can be seen wearing jewelry provided by the family jewelers, a press release said.

A new player in the fashion industry, Jaipur Jewelers specializes in traditional and fusion handmade Indian jewelry set in fashion, sterling silver and 22 karat gold and diamond settings, the press release said.



Sonia Dara

## Zakir Hussain returns to NYC with two concerts

By A STAFF WRITER

The World Music Institute will host two nights with tabla-superstar Zakir Hussain and his ensemble of virtuoso artists from India's classical and folk traditions.

Titled "Zakir Hussain's Masters of Percussion", the concert will be held at the Rose Theater in Frederick P. Rose Hall Home of Jazz at the Lincoln Center, March 12 and 13, a press release said.

He will be joined by Taufiq Qureshi (percussion), the violin duo of Ganesh and Kumaresh, sarangi player Sabir Khan, Sridar Parthasarathy (mrudangam), Navin Sharma (dholak) and the Motilal Dhakis from



Bengal.

Hussain is one of India's renowned cultural ambassadors and the favorite

accompanist for many of the top musicians and dancers of India. He has also been a chief architect of the world music movement with his collaborations, including Shakti (which he founded with John McLaughlin and L. Shankar), Planet Drum (with Mickey Hart), and Sangam (with Charles Lloyd and Eric Harland), the release said.

For more information visit [www.worldmusicinstitute.org](http://www.worldmusicinstitute.org).

## Math institute in New Jersey conducts franchising seminar



BrainOBrian USA organized a seminar Feb. 21 at Panera in Edison on franchising opportunities for opening a learning center in New Jersey. Master Trainer Rajni Varshney, above, emphasized the quality of training provided to BrainOBrian teachers. Plainsboro, N.J., center Director Raj Vora discussed the challenges of opening a new center and the possible business model of such a center. Several articles on brain development were distributed. BrainOBrian USA, a subsidiary of the India-headquartered group, provides after-school programs aimed at whole brain and personality development for children between the ages of 5 and 14 years, a press release said.