



Государственный

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Dear colleagues!

The Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences (IOS RAS),
The State Museum of Oriental Art (SMOA), and
The Faculty of Oriental Studies of the State Academic University for the Humanities
(GAUGN)

invite you to participate in the Fourth International Academic Conference

**ART in the EAST and EAST in ARTS
BETWEEN RENAISSANCE AND DECADENCE**



**AEEA
October 12–14, 2026**

The Fourth Conference *AEAA-IV: Between Renaissance and Decadence* in 2026 will, as before, bring together specialists from museums holding collections of Asian and African art, researchers from academic and educational institutions working on a wide range of topics and periods in the history of Eastern art and culture.

The overarching theme of this year's conference will be an attempt to reconstruct the concept of the Golden Age of Culture, examining artistic expressions of sadness and nostalgia for its loss, the phenomenon of the Renaissance of ancient aesthetics in Eastern countries, and the natural processes of shifting vectors of prosperity and the achievement of a zenith in culture and craftsmanship leading up to the 'Autumn of the Middle Ages' and the aesthetics of decay and decadence. This latter development also evokes an interest in the reflection of calendrical themes in art in all their diversity, from the symbolism of [Zodiac] constellations to elegiac landscapes.

The 2026 convention is not limited by chronological boundaries: We invite speakers to reflect on the formulas of development, achievement of a zenith, and the experience of decline that have governed art and material culture from the ancient world to the 21st century.



The main topics of the convention:

1. Ideals of beauty and The Beautiful as indicators of historical periods
2. The decline of civilizations and empires: Art at a crossroads
3. The Golden Age and Renaissance in the East—a history of debates, formulas, and the search for prototypes
4. The language of classical tradition and the difficulties of its translation into modern language
5. The Transformation of Beauty in the Context of Decline
6. From 'Renaissance' to 'Decadence': Stages of Reinterpretation of Images (Renaissance → Mannerism → Decadence)
7. Symbols of decay and iconography as a marker of an era of change
8. The aesthetics of sadness, nostalgia, and longing for a lost Golden Age

Special Topic: 'All Calendars Lie': Seasons and calendar signs and symbols in different cultures

The Organizing Committee welcomes proposals and discussions of exhibition projects, film screenings, lectures, and events planned for the event.

The conference program will be compiled based on the selected applications by October 1, 2026.



The fourth conference ‘Art in the East and East in Arts’ will be held on- and offline on **October 12–14, 2026**, at the **Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences (12 Rozhdestvenka Street, Moscow, Russia)**.

Applications and abstracts (5,000 to 10,000 characters) are accepted at aeaa.conference@ivran.ru until **September 1, 2026**.

For any inquiries, please contact the email address of the Organizing committee: aeaa.conference@ivran.ru

Following the conference, selected papers will be published in the Oriental Courier journal (for which completed papers must be sent to the Organizing committee by September 10, 2026). Guidelines for the authors can be found here: <https://oriental-courier.ru/pravila-oformleniya-statey-ru-4.html?sl=ru>

Travel, accommodation, and travel expenses are covered by the sending party.

On behalf of the AEEA-IV Organizing Committee

Dinara V. Dubrovskaya, Dr. Habil., Head of the Department of Art and Material Culture, IOS RAS

Sofia A. Zinchenko, PhD (Art History), Associate Professor, Higher School of Economics, Senior Researcher, Department of Art, IOS RAS

Nataliya V. Safonova, PhD (History), Researcher, Department of Art, IOS RAS, Executive Secretary of IVVI-III

