

# Chola idols among 14 art works to be returned

Following this action, along with the repatriation of works in 2014, 2016 and 2019, the NGA will no longer hold any works acquired through Subhash Kapoor in its collection.

The decision to return the works is the culmination of years of research, due diligence and an evolving framework for decision-making that includes both legal principles and ethical considerations, the Gallery said in a media release.

The NGA Director Nick Mitzevich said, "As the first outcome of this change, the Gallery will be returning 14 objects from the Indian art collection to their country of origin. This is the right thing to do, it's culturally responsible and the result of collaboration between Australia and India."

Mr. Mitzevich said the Gallery would continue its provenance research, including for the Asian art collection and resolve the status of any works of concern.

The Indian High Commissioner to Australia, Manpreet Vohra, welcomed the decision by the Australian government and the NGA to return the art works. The works being returned are: child-saint Sambandar, dancing child-saint Sambandar of 12th century belonging to Chola dynasty, processional standard [alam], from Hyderabad, arch for a Jain shrine (11th-12th century), seated Jina, 1163 from Mount Abu region, Rajasthan, the divine couple Lakshmi and Vishnu [Lakshmi Narayana] (11-12th century), and Durga Mahisasuramardini, from Gujarat.