

History Museum of Mobile
111 South Royal Street

Phoenix Fire Museum
203 South Claiborne Street

Historic Site at Fort Condé
150 South Royal Street



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Media website: http://historymuseumofmobile.com/ark_india_exh.php

WHAT: Press preview for new exhibition "Ark of India: An Alabama Artist Explores Southern Asia"

WHEN: September 15 to October 15, 2014
Reservations are required

WHERE: The History Museum of Mobile
111 South Royal Street, Mobile, AL

"Ark of India: An Alabama Artist Explores Southern Asia" is an exhibit about personal discovery and exploration. It is an account of late 19th and early 20th century India as seen by Alabama artist, Roderick D. MacKenzie, using his paintings, drawings, sculptures, and most importantly, photographs, and writings. MacKenzie spent more than a decade in India, a place he described as exotic, dangerous, and colorful. He rode with princes on tiger hunts, climbed mountains along India's Northern border, and observed the sacred rituals at the Ganges River in Benares, India's most holy city. MacKenzie was the official painter of the Delhi Durbar in 1903, which marked the coronation of King Edward VII.

Returning to America in 1913, MacKenzie soon found other topics for his artwork, such as Bellingrath Gardens, the Mobile waterfront, and Birmingham's steel mills. Yet his time in India remained with him for the rest of his life. He earned a deep and abiding respect for the people of India, perhaps because they were not so different from the artist himself.

The exhibition is organized by the History Museum of Mobile and is on view from October 16, 2014 through September 1, 2015.

The exhibition is organized by the History Museum of Mobile to be a traveling exhibit once it closes on September 1, 2015.

Interested media should RSVP to museumrelations@cityofmobile.org. Photographers and film crews must contact Jacqlyn Kirkland, museum relations officer, in advance to make arrangements by calling 251-208-7652.

History is our mission ... to illuminate and preserve.

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Requests for one-on-one interviews with Dr. Alsobrook or other staff members must be made in advance with Jacqlyn Kirkland by email at museumrelations@cityofmobile.org.

An exhibition press kit is available upon request or online at http://historymuseumofmobile.com/ark_india_exh.php

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