

Front Cover:

N S M
National Museum
of Singapore

SG
Bicentennial

AN OLD NEW WORLD

From the East Indies to the
Founding of Singapore, 1600s–1819

21 Sep 2019 – 29 Mar 2020
10am – 7pm
Exhibition Galleries, Basement Level
Free admission for Citizens &
Permanent Residents

#AnOldNewWorld nationalmuseum.sg national.museum.of.singapore natmuseum_sg

Back Cover:

TICKETS	Citizens & Permanent Residents ¹	Non-Citizens & Non-Permanent Residents
Adults	Free (includes admission to Permanent Galleries and the exhibition)	\$18
Seniors ²	Free	\$14
Students ²	Free	\$14
All Access Pass – Adult (includes admission to Permanent Galleries and the exhibition)	N. A.	\$26 (20% off usual price of \$33)
All Access Pass – Concessions (includes admission to Permanent Galleries and the exhibition)	N. A.	\$19 (20% off usual price of \$24)

Admission is free for visitors aged 6 years and below. Group visits (min. 20 persons) and private tours (min. 8 persons) must be arranged at least 3 weeks in advance. Email nhb_nm_hospitality@nhb.gov.sg to book and for enquiries.

¹ Please present NRIC at the museum's Visitor Services counter for scanning.
² Please present valid proof of identity to enjoy concessions.
Tickets available from the National Museum Visitor Services counter.

 **SUPPORT US**
Support the National Museum of Singapore so we can continue to inspire with stories of Singapore and the world by showcasing exhibitions like *An Old New World*. You can help us continue to present quality exhibitions by donating through the donation boxes at the museum or scanning the QR code.

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AN OLD NEW WORLD

Explore the 200 years leading up to the establishment of an entrepôt in Singapore in 1819, beginning with the bustling world of trade in the East Indies that attracted the Dutch and British East India Companies from the early 17th century. The European entry into the region, for better or worse, was only part of its longer history. This exhibition is a telling of that story, and a reflection of the broader forces at play that culminated in the events of 1819.

1600s – 1819

EXHIBITION CATALOGUE



Featuring insightful essays by the exhibition's curators and historian Peter Borschberg, as well as expanded artefact captions and a timeline of key events leading up to 1819, the exhibition catalogue offers a broader perspective of the two centuries prior to the founding of Singapore in the context of regional and global events. Grab your copy at the MUSEUM LABEL shop today!
Hardcover, 200 pages | Retail Price: \$35 | SBN: 978-981-14-221

In conjunction with the exhibition, the National Museum will also hold an international conference on 26 and 27 September, exploring the theme of the sea as a historical passageway, connector and conduit. A special panel will discuss the notion of knowledge histories and curatorial practices with regards to exhibition-making and Singapore's history.

EXHIBITION RESOURCES

- Family Activity Trail* (Suitable for ages 5 and up)
- Children's Activity Booklet* (Suitable for Primary Students)
- An Investigators' Guide to Exploring Singapore's History from Pre-colonial to Present* (Suitable for Secondary Students)

Find out more about the exhibition in a fun and engaging way through these resources! Pick up a copy from the Visitor Services counter, exhibition gallery or download it from the museum's website.

EXHIBITION FLOOR PLAN



The Launch of the Honorable East India Company's Ship Edinburgh, 1827, Edward Duncan, after William Huggins.

2 SETTING SAIL

Immerse yourself in the turbulent world of sea travel that promised great profits, posed many risks, and was fought over intensely with the entry of the English and Dutch East India Companies into the East Indies. In this zone, learn about the East Indiamen, the large armed merchant ships used for these voyages.

ALL ABOARD!

An Interactive Learning Space for Families and Children

Board an interactive ship to find out how sailors navigated the seas in the past, the items people brought for their long sea journeys, and the challenges faced at sea. Learn the ropes – some of the important knots used by sailors – and scale the upper deck of the ship for a bird's-eye view of the exhibition gallery.

3 SPICES AND TEA FOR THE MARKET

The English and Dutch East India Companies were set up in the 1600s to take advantage of trade with the East Indies. How did these companies operate, how was trade conducted, and what do local experiences and perspectives tell us about the companies' presence in the region?

MEETING OF THE WORLDS

Come face to face with the old-world grandeur of Aceh, the bustling port city that was the first destination of the English East India Company in 1602. Experience that encounter with a dramatic, life-sized, panoramic projection that sets the stage for the rest of the exhibition.

4 LOCAL AND SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE

Much of the natural world in the East Indies was already known to its local inhabitants. To what extent did European naturalists who travelled here rely on this local knowledge to navigate unknown interiors, and to identify and document the often strange species they encountered?

5 NEW LANDSCAPES AND PORTRAITS

The places and peoples of the East Indies were often fashioned into landscapes and portraits that reflected the imagination of European artists, and along with that, the worldviews and stereotypes they held. The artworks presented here show how the European fascination with the "exotic" made way for more romanticised views of the East Indies.

6 PRELUDE TO THE FOUNDING

What happened in the years leading up to 1819, and how did local, regional and international politics eventually lead to the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Alliance that year between Sir Stamford Raffles, Temenggong Abdul Rahman and Sultan Hussein Shah?

1 MAPPING OUR WORLD

Begin your journey with maps of the 17th to 19th centuries that show how the East Indies were navigated, surveyed and documented. Who made these maps, what purpose did they serve, and what was the role of the Orang Laut – the "sea peoples" who knew the waters better than others?

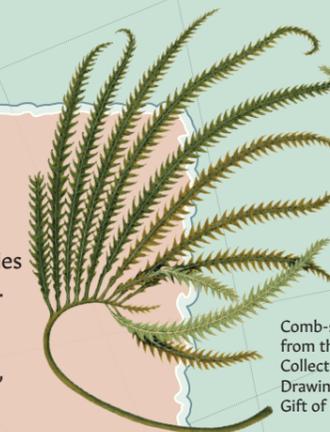
INTRODUCTION

↑ Embark

↓ Disembark



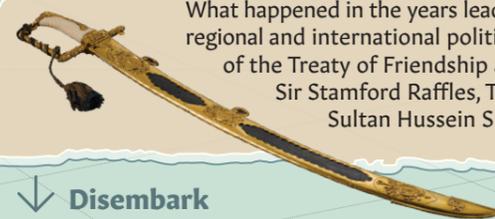
Pair of terrestrial and celestial globes, 1800/1799, J & W Cary.



Comb-shaped Matonia from the William Farquhar Collection of Natural History Drawings, early 19th century, Gift of G. K. Goh.



View in the Island of Cracatoa, 1809 [1820], John Webber.



Lloyd's Patriotic Fund presentation sword, 1804, Richard Teed of Lancaster Court.



WELCOME TO THE EMPORIUM Rotunda, Level 1

In this introductory installation at the museum's main entrance, explore and learn about the early goods traded in Singapore. Based on the Master Attendant's report of 1823, the examples of goods traded show the riches of natural and mineral products harvested locally.

EXHIBITION PROGRAMMES

There's something for everyone in this exciting line-up of programmes! Celebrate important occasions with us, hear from our curators and speakers about interesting topics related to the exhibition, and participate in programmes specially designed for youth, families and children.

Visit www.nationalmuseum.sg/AONWProgrammes for updates.

Celebrate

- 21 & 22 Sep Opening Weekend Special
- 12 & 13 Oct National Museum's 132nd Anniversary Celebrations
- 23 Nov Grandparents' Day Special

Hear

- 3 Oct Curator Tour
- 5 Oct A Lighter Side of History: Tasting the Trade Winds with Christopher Tan
- 25 Oct HistoriaSG: Singapore's Role in the Silk Road of the Sea with Professor John Miksic
- 9 Nov Singapore & the World: Gujarati Involvement in the Spice Trade in Singapore with Azra Moir

For Youth

- 19 & 26 Oct National Museum: Nightfall – An Interactive Experience

For Families

- 21 Sep, 22 Sep, 23 Nov, 21 Dec Storytelling Sessions and Drop-in Craft Activities