Buddha Of The Future: An Early Maitreya From Thailand

by Nandana Cutivongs; Denise Patry Leidy; Asia Society; Kimbell Art Mum


"Buddha of the Future" makes an intelligent attempt to do so. But because it radically telescopes huge chunks of information, its logic is hard to follow. One needs, for example, a practiced eye to make the many stylistic comparisons the show sets up, and a grounding in Asian history to extrapolate from them patterns of political and religious change. For a quick aerial view of the historical terrain, it is best to head straight to "Interconnections: Buddhist Art From India, Sri Lanka and Java," a section toward the end of the installation. A "Buddha of the Future: An Early Maitreya From Thailand" is to remain at the Asia Society, 725 Park Avenue (at 69th Street), through July 31. Advertisement. Continue reading the main story.
Maitreya (Sanskrit), Metteyya (Pali), is regarded as a future Buddha of this world in Buddhist eschatology. In some Buddhist literature, such as the Amitabha Sutra and the Lotus Sutra, he is referred to as Ajita. According to Buddhist tradition, Maitreya is a bodhisattva who will appear on Earth in the future, achieve complete enlightenment, and teach the pure dharma. According to scriptures, Maitreya will be a successor to the present Buddha, Gautama Buddha (also known as Āśākyamuni Buddha). The Buddha of The Future: An early Maitreya from Thailand, The Asia Society Gallery, New York, USA. The Archaeology The Story of Art. Jan 2001.Â As compared to most of the developing nations considered in Part Five, the Thai transition from traditional to modern life has been relatively placid. From the fourteenth-century creation of the monarchy of Siam at Ayutthaya to its overthrow by the Burmese in 1767, the Thais enjoyed continuity of rule. The Ayutthaya monarchy initially accepted trading contacts with the Portuguese, British, [Show full abstract] French, and Dutch; but in 1688, in reaction against French intrusion, ties with the West were severed or attenuated for some 160 years.