

About the Author and Illustrator

Lesley Pullen is an art historian with a focus on medieval South and Southeast Asian material cultures. She completed at SOAS University of London a Postgraduate Diploma in Asian Art in 1998, a Taught Masters in 2008, and a Doctorate in 2017 with a thesis titled “Representation of Textiles on Classical Javanese Sculpture”. Her thesis addressed the repeat patterns evident on certain Hindu-Buddhist figurative sculptures from Java, Indonesia in the eighth to fifteenth centuries. Following her doctorate, Lesley was appointed a SOAS Post-Doctoral Research Associate. Her teaching record at SOAS includes tutor of the Southeast Asian Art module of the Postgraduate Diploma programme from 2009 to 2015. Lesley is also tutor of the Southeast Asian Art module for the Victoria & Albert Museum Arts of Asia year course since 2015. She has published articles reflecting her doctoral research in a number of peer-reviewed journals.

Yiran Huang is a freelance illustrator and a lecturer of Visual Communication at the College of Art and Design, Shenzhen University, China. Yiran studies illustration, pattern design and narrative image. Her research concerns storytelling, *maṇḍala* drawing and art therapy. She has a strong interest in traditional pattern design, which started with her first bachelor’s degree at Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts in Decorative Art and Design. She received her basic education in Chinese traditional art and craft at Guangzhou, and studied for her BA (Hons) Illustration course at Camberwell College of Arts, University of the Arts, London.

Yiran met Lesley and started working with her on her doctoral thesis in April 2014 when she was an MA student at the School of Design, Royal College of Art, London. She claims joining Lesley’s project was enormously gratifying as it enabled her to use her line drawing skills to analyse the textile patterns on each sculpture, each with a different historical background. Yiran gained significant experience and enjoyment working on this project with Lesley.