Green Tara Dispensing Boons to Ecstatic Devotees: Folio from a Manuscript of the Ashtasahasrika Prajnaparamita (Perfection of Wisdom) Pala period, early 12th century India, West Bengal or Bangladesh

Dilwara temple, Goddess figure, 11-12yh c.

The Dancing Courtesan Kosha and the King’s Charioteer: Folio from a Kalpasutra Manuscript, ca. 1475

Siyavash faces Afrasiyab across the Jihun River: page from a Shahnama manuscript Master of the Jainesque Shahnama Unknown workshop, possibly Malwa, ca. 1425–50 Opaque watercolor and ink on paper. 12 5/8 x 9 1/4 in.

Folio from a Shahnama (Book of kings) by Firdawsi (d.1020); recto: Iskandar (Alexander) and the talking tree; verso: text circa 1330-1340. Il-Khanid period, Tabriz, Iran

Rustam slays the White Demon, from the Shah Nama of Firdausi, ca. last half 15th c., north or central India, Opaque watercolor and gold on paper , 7-1/2 x 8-1/2 inches

The Ni’matnama-i Nasir al-Din Shah. A manuscript on Indian cookery and the preparation of sweetmeats, spices etc., 1495-1505 for Sultan Ghiyath al-din Khalji (r.1469-1501) of Mandu, Malwa, India

Map and terms:
Malwa
Viraha=love in separation
Krishna (avatar of Vishnu)
Vraja/Braj
Bhagavata Purana, Book X
bhakti (loving devotion)

Champavati aflame with longing, from a Chaurapanchashika (“Fantasies of a Love Thief”) mss. Early Rajput style (prob. Malwa), ca.1550

“Even now I remember her, of a slender build, with her limbs afflicted by the fire of separation, and as one having the eyes like those of a deer, and as the sole resort of love-sports, with her ornaments of many kinds, her beautiful face, and with the movement of a swan.”