



You are cordially invited to the preview of

ANDALUSI HERITAGE: IMAGES AND OBJECTS

at The Street Gallery, Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies,
University of Exeter, Exeter EX4 4ND

With introduction by Professor Richard Hitchcock, followed by a reception
on Thursday 6 May 2010 at 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Exhibition open: 9:00am – 5:00pm
6 May – 11 June 2010 (closed at weekends)

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The imprint left by the presence of Islam in al-Andalus has not gone unnoticed. Within the Iberian Peninsula, Spanish civilization evolved with the Andalusí ingredient as one essential and defining element. The external perception has shifted between a romantic idealization of Spain's 'Moorish' past, and an uneasy recognition that Spain's 'difference' from Europe is to be accounted for by Arabic and Islamic influences. These views hover between admiration and judgmentalism.

Neither position is taken up in the exhibition, the focus rather being on visual images which show diverse aspects of Spain and Europe's debt to al-Andalus – images which are familiar to those in the field, but which, while they are in no way dependent on Granada, Sevilla and Córdoba, do reflect these well-known icons in certain instances.

Richard Hitchcock

