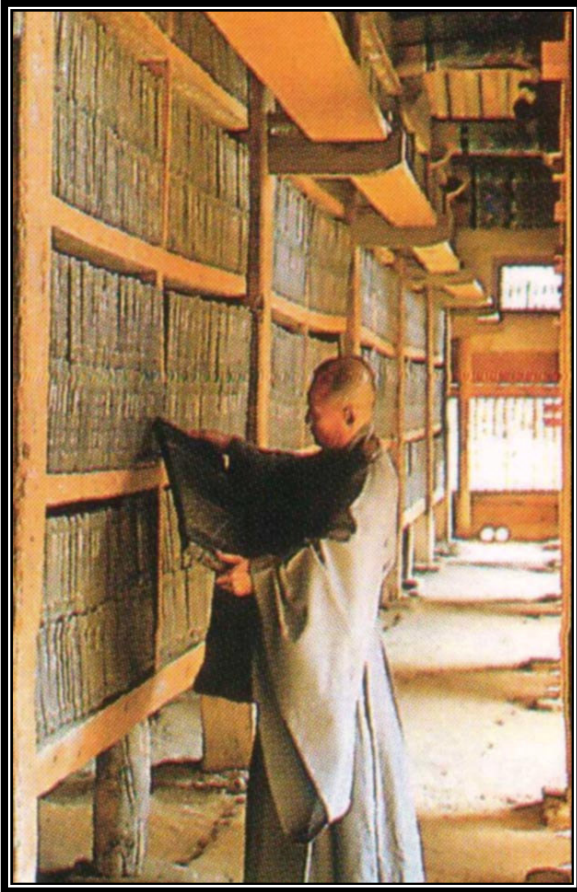


THE SOCIETY FOR ASIAN ART PRESENTS

CULTURAL LANDSCAPES: EXPLORING KOREA IN THE AUTUMN

LED BY DR. KUMJA PAIK KIM
SEPTEMBER 24 – OCTOBER 9, 2008



Korea is a country with a powerful identity of its own. It is a country of enormous contrasts. Seoul, once the seat of a royal agricultural nation is now one of the largest cities in the world, and yet there are still villages in Korea where life still feels very rural. Its artistic heritage is vast and deep. A beneficiary over the years of the wealth of different cultures, it has never failed to interpret these gifts in its own way, infusing them with flavors found nowhere else. Join Members of the Society for Asian Art on a trip to Korea which has been designed to unravel this country's unique culture. Over a period of two weeks discover mountain temples, city palaces, ancient tombs, sweeping landscapes, Korean dance and classical Korean pottery. Above all, Korea is a land of mountains with a skyline bound by low but craggy peaks, which in the autumn months are ablaze with color.

Synopsis of the Study Tour

SEOUL – 8 nights

- Changdeok-gung
- Visits to Seoul's extraordinary museums including (not a full list) the newly re-opened National Museum, Ewha Women's University Museum, the Seoul National University Museum and Leeum Samsung Museum of Art
- Private visit to the embroidery collection of Huh Dong Hwa
- Drive to the Island of Ganghwa-do
- Ceramic village of Icheon

DAEGU – 2 nights

- Haein-sa Temple complex



- Buseok-sa – the temple of the Floating Stone

GYEONGJU – 2 nights

- National Museum
- Tumuli Park
- Seokguram in the early morning
- Bulguk-sa Temple

TONGDO-SA – 1 night

- Tongdo-sa Temple
- Newly opened temple museum

GWANGJU – 2 nights

- Songgwang-sa
- Ceramic center at Gangjin
- Mt. Jirisan National Park
- 7th Gwangju Art Biennial

Join members of the Society for Asian Art on this exciting program to Korea that will be accompanied by **Kumja Paik Kim**. The trip begins with a leisurely stay in Seoul where carved dragonheads and fierce figurines top the ornate tile roofs of Seoul's six-hundred-year-old Namdaemun Gate. Over a period of a week, walk through Seoul's past, examining the cultural and historical background of Joseon landmarks as well as some rare and recently excavated royal treasures. Spend an afternoon experiencing one of the most exquisite traditional art expressions of Korean women at the wonderful private collection owned by Huh Dong Hwa, who has assembled a superb collection of Korean embroidery. From Seoul travel to Daegu and enjoy a full day excursion to Haein-sa Temple. Set in the thickly-forested foothills of Mt. Gaya, a national park, Haein-sa is one of the greatest centers of Buddhist scholarship in the Orient. The temple complex consists of fifty major buildings besides thirteen hermitages hidden away in the surrounding hills. Up the steep steps behind the main hall is a long, grilled wooden storehouse which contains the tens of thousands of wood blocks on which are inscribed the Tripitaka Koreana, the Korean canon of Buddhist scripture. Spend almost three days exploring the city of Gyeongju, capital of the Silla dynasty. Relics of that

period are richly scattered through the valley. Eclipsed for over a thousand years when succeeding dynasties made their capitals elsewhere, Gyeongju's ancient heritage has only recently been re-discovered. The entire valley is dotted with burial tombs, tiered pagodas, fortress ruins, relief sculptures and palace grounds. Head toward Gwangju, stopping at the awe-inspiring temple of Songgwang-sa, a beautiful complex of buildings and courtyards. Songgwang-sa represents many exquisite examples of traditional Korean temple architecture from different periods. Nearby is

Gangjin, an important ceramic center known for its inlaid celadon. Spend two nights in Gwangju and visit a number of important temples including Hwaom-sa Temple. Our stay here coincides with the 7th Gwangju Art Biennial, fast becoming a respected international contemporary art fair. En route back to Seoul stop at Buyeo. Rich in legends and relics the Buyeo National Museum houses objects from the Baekje times as well as prehistoric implements found in the area. Return home from Seoul.

The trip will be accompanied by Kumja Paik Kim, former curator of Korean Art at the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. She was the first curator of a department of Korean Art in a US museum when she took this position.

**CULTURAL LANDSCAPES:
EXPLORING KOREA IN THE AUTUMN**
\$6,960 PER PERSON • SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT \$1,870

- *The Tour Cost includes:*
- Accommodations in double occupancy in hotels as listed - please note that these are not the most deluxe hotels available
- Breakfast daily, 12 lunches, 12 dinners
- Services of a Distant Horizons escort
- Services of a local Korean guide
- Sightseeing and entrance fees
- Tips to all staff
- Porterage
- A \$300 donation to the Society for Asian Art is included
- *Not Included are:*
- International airfares to Korea
- Airport departure taxes
- Passports and visa fees
- Personal insurance for health, baggage, and trip cancellation
- Items of a purely personal nature

For more information or a detailed itinerary, call Distant Horizons at (800) 333-1240 or (562) 983-8828; or the Society for Asian Art at (415) 581-3701.

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R E S E R V A T I O N F O R M

I would like to reserve _____ space(s) for the Cultural Landscapes: Exploring Korea in the Autumn Tour. Enclosed is a deposit of \$500 per person, in the total amount of \$ _____.

Please make checks payable to Distant Horizons.

Your deposit is refundable up to 90 days prior to departure less a \$250 per person administration fee.

Room Arrangements

Single Supplement _____
Double Occupancy, I will be sharing a room with: _____

I would prefer a roommate, but will pay the single supplement if one is not available. _____

Personal Information

Last name _____ First Name _____
Address _____ City, State, Zip _____
Daytime Phone (_____) _____ Email Address _____

Travel Arrangements

I/we wish to be booked on the group flight from San Francisco. _____
I/we wish to be booked on a flight departing from: _____

I/we will make other travel arrangements to arrive in Seoul on September 24, 2008. _____

Send application to: the Society for Asian Art, 200 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102.

A confirmation letter, a declaration & waiver form and a travel insurance application will be mailed to you upon receipt of your deposit.