

Fall 2022 Arts of Asia Lecture Series
Forging New Connections: Asia in the First Millennium of the Common Era
Sponsored by the *Society for Asian Art*

“The Transition from Tang to Song Dynasty China: Visual and Material Culture”

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Historical chronology

Tang Dynasty (618-907)

Uighur Khaganate (744-840)

Five Dynasties and Ten Kingdoms Period (907-960)

Song Dynasty (960-1279)

 Northern Song (960-1127)

 Southern Song (1127-1279)

Liao Dynasty (907-1125)

Jin Dynasty (1115-1234)

Western Xia Dynasty (1038-1227)

Geography (China)

Central Plains (*zhongyuan* 中原) – middle and lower regions of the Yellow River

Chang’an 長安 (present-day Xi’an, Shaanxi Province) – Tang dynasty capital

Kaifeng 開封 (Henan Province) – Northern Song capital

Hangzhou 杭州 (Zhejiang Province) – Southern Song capital

Historical figures

Emperor Taizong 唐太宗 (598-649)

Emperor Gaozong 唐高宗 (628-683)

Wu Zetian 武則天 (624-705)

Emperor Xuanzong 唐玄宗 (685-762)

Yang Guifei 楊貴妃 (719-756)

Emperor Taizu 宋太祖 (927-976)

Emperor Huizong 宋徽宗 (1082-1135)

Historical events

An Lushan rebellion *Anshi zhi luan* 安史之亂 (755-763)

Wang Anshi reforms *Wang Anshi bianfa* 王安石變法 (1021-1086)

Terms

Tomb epitaph (*muzhiming* 墓志銘) – square slabs of stone buried inside Chinese tombs inscribed with a commemoration, in prose and in rhyme, of the tomb occupant

Manichaeism – religion founded in the 3rd century by Mani (216-277) in the Sasanian Empire

Suggested reading, resources, and viewing

- Blanchard, Lara C.W. *Song Dynasty Figures of Longing and Desire* (Leiden: Brill, 2018)
- Bol, Peter K. “*This Culture of Ours: Intellectual Transitions in T’ang and Sung China*” (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1992)
- Choo, Jessey J. C. *Inscribing Death: Burials, Representations, and Remembrance in Tang China*. (Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press, 2022)
- Drompp, Michael. *Tang China and the Collapse of the Uighur Empire: A Documentary History* (Leiden: Brill, 2005)
- Ebrey, Patricia Buckley and Maggie Bickford, eds. *Emperor Huizong and Late Northern Song China: The Politics of Culture and the Culture of Politics* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Asia Center, 2006)
- Hansen, Valerie. “The Beijing Qingming Scroll and its Significance for the Study of Chinese History.” *Journal of Sung-Yuan Studies* 26 (1996): 183-200
- Hong, Jeehee. *Theater of the Dead: A Social Turn in Chinese Funerary Art, 1000-1400* (Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press, 2016)
- Lee, De-nin Deanna. *The Night Banquet: A Chinese Scroll Through Time* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2010)
- Lee, Hui-shu. *Empresses, Art, and Agency in Song Dynasty China* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2010)
- Liu, Heping. “*The Water Mill and Northern Song Imperial Patronage of Art, Commerce, and Science.*” *The Art Bulletin* 84.4 (2002): 566-595
- McNair, Amy. *The Upright Brush: Yan Zhenqing’s Calligraphy and Song Literati Politics* (Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press, 1998)
- Rothschild, N. Harry. *Emperor Wu Zhao and Her Pantheon of Devis, Divinities, and Dynastic Mothers* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2015)
- Shen, Hsueh-man. *Gilded Splendor: Treasures of China’s Liao Empire (907-1125)* (New York: Harry N. Abrams, 2006)
- Tackett, Nicolas. *The Destruction of the Medieval Chinese Aristocracy* (Cambridge: Harvard University Asia Center, 2014)
- Wu Hung. “Simulated Landscape Paintings: Newly Unearthed Tomb Murals in Tang China.” *The Art Bulletin* 103.4 (2021): 6-35

Asia for Educators, Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University
<http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/>

Xin Wen, “Capital of the Past: Urban and Cultural Transformations of Chang’an, 900-1400,”
UCLA Center for Chinese Studies
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ArZO_7f_09M