

Fall 2022 Arts of Asia Lecture Series
Forging New Connections: Asia in the First Millennium of the Common Era
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***Hatayi*: The “Chinese Style” at the Sixteenth-Century Ottoman Court
under Sultan Süleyman the Magnificent and His Successors**

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Short abstract:

The word *hatayi* -- “Cathayan” -- has long been used to describe an important current in the art of Ottoman Istanbul in the mid-sixteenth century, in which artists of the Sultan’s court, inspired by the arts of Ming China, developed an iconic Ottoman style encompassing great works of art in many different media. The style is closely associated with the emigré artist Shah Qulu, who was head of the Ottoman court design studio during this time. The pen-and-ink drawings and illuminations made by Shah Qulu and his followers became exemplars of an “official” Ottoman style, which quickly appeared in other media, such as ceramics, carpets, silk textiles, metalware, and the arts of the book. In this illustrated lecture, Professor Denny will use some of the greatest works in the new style to explain its development, its rapid expansion across diverse media, and its subsequent historical legacy.

Resources:

See Walter B. Denny, “Dating Ottoman Turkish Works in the Saz Style” (in *Muqarnas*, 1983) available at <https://www.archnet.org/publications/3166>; Metropolitan Museum of Art, “Saz'-Style Drawing of a Dragon Amid Foliage ca. 1540–50” available at <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/451405> and “Short Sword (Yatagan) from the Court of Süleyman the Magnificent (reigned 1520–66)ca. 1525–30” available at <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/451405>; Cleveland Museum of Art, “Dragon in Foliage with Lion and Phoenix Heads” mid-1500s, attributed to Shahkulu,” available at <https://www.clevelandart.org/art/1944.492>