



January - February 2023

No. 1



Photo by Crazy nana on Unsplash

President's Message

With 2022 coming to an end, we hope everyone is looking forward to 2023 and the coming Year of the Rabbit, which begins on January 22. The rabbit is a symbol of longevity, peace and prosperity with 2023 predicted to be a year of hope. After the last few years, I think all of us can look forward and hope for a year of peace and prosperity.

As you are receiving this newsletter just before the holidays, consider gifting our Spring 2023 Arts of Asia lecture series to a friend or family member to introduce them to the Society, as suggested by our Social Media Committee. Our Annual Spring Dinner will be held on Tuesday, Mar. 14, to celebrate the arrival of the Lunar New Year. More details about this social event will be shared soon. Please save this date!

The new year will usher in some changes at the Society for Asian Art. Our bi-monthly newsletter will now be digital only starting with this issue. The vast majority of our members already receive our newsletters and communications via email with only a handful of our members not having an email address on file. We will provide an in-house printed copy of the newsletter to these members only. This change saves us both money and time. Also, as our membership cards are not used to verify membership at events, we will stop printing and mailing membership cards with your renewal letters, starting with January 2023. Membership status is verified upon registration or attendance at events. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the SAA Office at info@societyforasianart.org.

Marsha Vargas Handley
President



Pendant in the shape of a hare. China; Western Zhou period 1050-771 BCE. Nephrite. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection, B60J573*. Photograph © Asian Art Museum.

Currently on view in Gallery 13



IN THIS ISSUE

Wednesday, Jan. 11

Member Event - Endless Knot: Struggle & Healing in the Buddhist World at BAMPFA

Saturday, Jan. 21

Study Group - China's China: Study Ancient China through the Evolution of Its Ceramics

Fridays, Jan. 27 – Apr. 28

Spring 2023 Arts of Asia Lecture Series

Global Connections: Asia and the Arts in the Second Millennium of the Common Era

Wednesday, Feb. 1

Member Event - Ramses the Great and the Gold of the Pharaohs

Saturday, Feb. 4

Upper Category Member Event - Society Conversation with Linda Komaroff



UPCOMING EVENTS (Subject to Change)

Saturday, Mar. 11 Member Event - Author Talk with Gordon Chang

Tuesday, Mar. 14 Member Event - Annual Spring Dinner

Saturday, Apr. 15 Member Event - Film Presentation - *Chinatown Rising*

Wednesday, Apr. 26 Member Event - Author Talk with Jonathan Frydman



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members, who joined the Society from October through November. We are thrilled that you have decided to join us, and hope you find our programs and events interesting and engaging. Please don't hesitate to ask questions and give us feedback. Welcome!

Deeksha Brihdish
Bonnie Demergasso

Carol Hyman
Marion Michel & Robert McDonald



SOCIAL MEDIA

The SAA will soon be embarking on a new series of trips in 2023. Any photos that you take from any of the SAA's adventures are always welcome for posting on our social media feeds. You can email the photos as you capture them to candacezks@gmail.com.

We will be adding a suggestion on FaceBook that followers consider the Spring 2023 Arts of Asia lecture series as a gift for friends and family. We are asking all SAA members to consider gifting the lecture series. Since the lectures are available on Zoom, they are a perfect gift for Asian art loving friends near and far. It is truly a gift that keeps on giving for 14 weeks from January 27 to April 28.

Society for Asian Art

January - February 2023, No. 1

Members' Newsletter
Edited by John Nelson
and Susan Lai

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Board of Directors 2022-2023

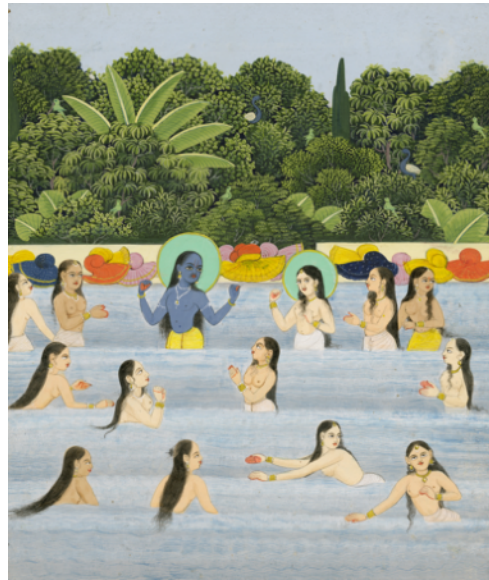
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Global Connections: Asia and the Arts in the Second Millennium of the Common Era



Left: Bowl with running rabbit, approx. 1250–1350. Iran; probably Kashan. Ilkhanid period (1256-1353). Glazed fritware with underglaze decoration. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection, B60P1908*. Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.

Right: The Hindu deity Krishna bathing with female cowherds, approx. 1820. India. Opaque watercolors on paper. *Asian Art Museum, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. George Hopper Fitch, 1988.51.21*. Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.

When: Fridays, Jan. 27 – Apr. 28, 2023
Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Pacific Time
Place: Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum & Online Webinars
Fee: \$200 per person Society members and \$250 per person non-members for the series. Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jan. 20, 2023. We will only accept drop-ins for individual lectures in Samsung Hall on a space available basis. Drop-in fee is \$25 per person per lecture. All in-person fees are after Museum admission.

Instructor of Record: Sanjyot Mehendale

The Society for Asian Art presents *Global Connections: Asia and the Arts in the Second Millennium of the Common Era*, the 3rd part of a 3-part lecture series focusing on the effects of technology and the environment on the arts and culture of Asia. Join us in the Asian Art Museum's Samsung Hall to attend these lectures in-person, or view the lectures on Zoom.

Beginning in the Steppes of East Asia, explore the impact of the Mongol empire as it exploded west, forming the Ilkhanid Dynasty in Persia and east, forming the Yuan Dynasty in China. Follow the Ottoman Empire as it expanded from its center in Bursa and Constantinople – an empire that continued into the 20th century. The Mughals of South Asia continued the legacy of both Persia and the Mongols, and the Little Ice Age (1550–1850) affected Indian religion and culture. Climate and geography affected the rise of empires in Southeast Asia and triggered conflicts in the strategic location of the Korean Peninsula.



ARTS OF ASIA SPRING 2023 LECTURE SERIES

Speakers & Topics (Subject to Change)

January 27, 2023

Mongol Networks

Uranchimeg Tsultem, Assistant Professor, Herron School of Art + Design, Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI)

February 3, 2023

Arts of the Ilkhanid and Timurid Empires

Linda Komaroff, Curator of Islamic Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art

February 10, 2023 *The speaker will present this lecture on Zoom.*

Islam in Medieval and Early Modern Indonesia

Eric Tagliacozzo, John Stambaugh Professor of History, Cornell University

February 17, 2023

Empires of Southeast Asia

Forrest McGill, Wattis Curator of South and Southeast Asian Art, Asian Art Museum of San Francisco

February 24, 2023

Yuan Dynasty: Arts, Technology and Trade

Morris Rossabi, Associate Adjunct Professor, Department of East Asian Languages & Cultures, Columbia University

March 3, 2023

Visualizing the World: Miniature Painting and the Mughals

Munis Faruqi, Associate Professor, Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley

March 10, 2023

How to See Water in an Age of Unusual Droughts: Ecological Aesthetics in the Little Ice Age, India

Sugata Ray, Associate Professor of South and Southeast Asian Art, University of California, Berkeley

March 17, 2023

Retrieving the Erased Spiritual and Material Cultures of Early Philippine Polities c. 1000 – 1500 CE

Florina Capistrano-Baker, Consulting Curator, Ayala Museum

March 24, 2023

Defending Korea and the Impact of the Pottery War (1592 –1598)

Sunglim Kim, Associate Professor of Art History, Dartmouth College

March 31, 2023

Topographies at the Borderlands of Chinese Architecture, 14th –17th Centuries

Nancy Steinhardt, Professor of East Asian Art and Curator of Chinese Art, University of Pennsylvania

April 7, 2023

Ottoman Empire

Heghnar Watenpaugh, Professor of Art and Architecture, University of California, Davis

April 14, 2023 *The speaker will present this lecture on Zoom.*

Zen Painting and the Heart-Mind in Medieval Japan

Yukio Lippit, Jeffrey T. Chambers and Andrea Okamura Professor of the History of Art and Architecture, Harvard University

April 21, 2023

Rebuilding Anatolia: The Lands of Rum, Seljuks, Beyliks and the Early Ottomans

Patricia Blessing, Assistant Professor of Art and Archaeology, Princeton University

April 28, 2023

Tea, Teapots and Their Contributions to the Rise of Asian Influence on Europe and Europe's Influence on Asia

Jim Connell, Professor of Fine Arts, Winthrop University

Please check our website for the most up-to-date information about this lecture series.



MEMBER EVENTS

Endless Knot: Struggle & Healing in the Buddhist World With Rosaline (Yi Yi Mon) Kyo

When: **Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2023**

Time: **11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

Place: **Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA), 2155 Center Street, Berkeley**

Fee: **\$15 per person Society members; \$20 per person non-members.**
Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jan. 4, 2023.

Featuring an array of artworks from around South, Southeast and East Asia and the United States, this exhibition illustrates the concept of interdependence, by tying together historical art with fresh perspectives from living artists. Included are works by Do-Ho Suh, Binh Danh, Takashi Murakami and contemporary Nepalese artist Tsherin Sherpa. The exhibition explores themes such as shifting borders, karmic formations and struggles and healing. The tour will focus on artwork groupings highlighting the impact of historical events on contemporary situations.

Rosaline (Yi Yi Mon) Kyo is the guest curator for this exhibition. She is the Assistant Professor of Art History and Chinese Studies at Davidson College in North Carolina. She specializes in modern and contemporary Chinese and Tibetan art, with a specific focus on transcultural artistic exchanges.

Attendees can opt to join a no-host lunch after the tour.

Ramses the Great and the Gold of the Pharaohs With Renée Dreyfus

When: **Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2023**

Time: **10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. PST**

Place: **Zoom Webinar**

Fee: **\$15 per person Society members; \$20 per person non-members.**
Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jan. 25, 2023.

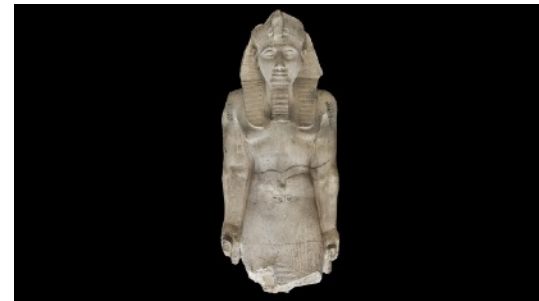
Ramses II, known as Ramses the Great, was the most famous and powerful pharaoh of the New Kingdom — Egypt's golden age. He ruled for 67 years, erecting enormous temples, obelisks, and statues, and expanding Egypt's empire.

Most of you will have seen this most extraordinary state-of-the-art exhibition by now. Renée Dreyfus, the main curator in charge of this great venture, will take us behind the scenes and describe the life and importance of Ramses the Great and the luxurious royal treasures using the wonderful objects in this exhibition, which all come from Egyptian museums and are unlikely to travel again.

Renée Dreyfus is the George and Judy Marcus Distinguished Curator and curator in charge, ancient art, at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. She has a long and distinguished career at the Legion of Honor. She also serves as an Advisor for the Society for Asian Art and is among its longest-serving members.



Photo courtesy of Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive.



Upper part of a colossal of Ramses II
Egyptian, Ashmunein, New Kingdom, Dynasty 19
Limestone, 76 3/4 x 27 1/2 x 33 1/2 in. (195 x 70 x 85 cm)
Egyptian Museum, Cairo
JE 87299

Photograph by Sandro Vannini
Image courtesy of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco



UPPER CATEGORY MEMBER EVENTS

Society Conversation with Linda Komaroff

When: **Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023**
 Time: **2:00 p.m.**
 Place: **Private Residence in San Francisco**
 Fee: **\$20 per person Society Upper Category members and guests only.**
Attendance is limited to 20 people.
Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jan. 28, 2023.

In mid-December, Society Upper Category members will receive an email invitation with a link to register for this Society Conversation with Linda Komaroff, LACMA's Curator of Islamic Art and head of its Art of the Middle East Department.

Dr. Komaroff is the author and editor of multiple books, articles and chapters concerning aspects of Islamic art in addition to having taught at institutions including Hamilton College, NYU and UCLA. She joined LACMA in 1995 and has helped double the museum's collection of Islamic art while mounting major exhibitions — many of which have toured internationally.



Linda Komaroff

Her Society Conversation topic will focus on two 2023-2024 exhibitions she is currently working on: *Dining with the Sultan: The Fine Art of Feasting* and *Women Defining Women in Contemporary Art of the Middle East and Beyond*. She will also provide an update on construction progress at LACMA.

If you are interested in upgrading your membership to enjoy unique events for Upper Category members or simply want to strengthen your support for the Society, please contact the SAA Office Manager at officemanager@societyforasianart.org.



STUDY GROUP

China's China: Study Ancient China through the Evolution of its Ceramics With Bruce Bartholomew

When: **Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023**
 Time: **2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**
 Place: **Koret Education Center, Asian Art Museum**
 Fee: **\$15 per person Society members; \$20 per person non-members.**
Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jan. 14, 2023.

Examine the evolution of Ancient China's culture, society and technology through the evolution of China's ceramics. Our speaker will transport us to ancient China, from the Neolithic period (7000 BCE) to Qing dynasty (early 20th century), with his collection of ceramic shards. Shards from each period will be studied and their stories will be revealed. Join us for this rare hands-on discussion and an unusual angle in connecting the development of ceramics with the rise and fall of dynasties in ancient China.

Dr. Bruce Bartholomew received a BA in Zoology from UCLA and a PhD in Biology from Stanford University. He worked as the Curator of the UC Berkeley Botanical Garden for 10 years and as the Collections Manager of the herbarium at the California Academy of Sciences for 25 years. Much of his research centered on the plants of China, and he has been on numerous collecting expeditions throughout China. While working in Beijing in the late 1990s, he started collecting ceramic shards, which were found at numerous construction sites. Many of these dated to the Liao, Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties. Subsequently, he would check out piles of dirt in any city he visited in China. His collection eventually grew to over 2,000 shards dating from the Neolithic through the Qing dynasty.



Photo courtesy of Bruce Bartholomew.



REGISTRATION FORM

How to Register

1. Go to our website, www.societyforasianart.org, sign up and pay online; OR
2. Print and fill out this registration form, and send it with a check or the credit card information to:
Society for Asian Art, 200 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102.

SAA does not issue tickets or confirmations. You will be contacted ONLY if your registration cannot be completed. A valid email address for each registrant must be provided for online programs.

The Society for Asian Art's cancellation policy requires at least one week's advance written notice in order to receive a refund of registration fees. Requests must be received by the SAA office no later than one week before the start of the event, lecture series, or literature course. This excludes our travel programs, which have separate cancellation policies, as well as any programs where a specific refund policy is stated on the event page or description.

Please note that by registering for a program, you are giving consent to the SAA to be photographed or videoed as a participant.

Programs	Fee Per Person	Quantity	Subtotal
<input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 11, 2023 Member Event - Endless Knot: Struggle & Healing in the Buddhist World <i>Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jan. 4, 2023.</i>	\$15 Members \$20 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 21, 2023 Study Group - China's China: Study Ancient China through the Evolution of Its Ceramics <i>Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jan. 14, 2023.</i>	\$15 Members \$20 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> Jan. 27 - Apr. 28, 2023 Spring 2023 Arts of Asia Lecture Series Global Connections: Asia and the Arts in the Second Millennium of the Common Era <i>Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jan. 20, 2023.</i>	\$200 Members \$250 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> Feb. 1, 2023 Member Event - Ramses the Great and the Gold of the Pharaohs <i>Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jan. 25, 2023.</i>	\$15 Members \$20 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> Feb. 4, 2023 Upper Category Member Event - Society Conversation with Linda Komaroff <i>Registration will open when email invitations are sent to Upper Category members on in mid-Dec. Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jan. 28, 2023.</i>	\$20 Upper Category Members Only	N/A	Not accepted by mail

Total Amount _____

Name _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip Code _____

Check Number _____ Check Amount _____ Check Date _____

Charge registration fees to my credit card (CHECK ONE): Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration (MM/YY) _____ CVV (3 digit # on back of Visa, MC or D; 4 digit # on front of AmEx) _____

Signature _____

Date _____

COVID DISCLAIMER

Given the persisting risks posed by COVID-19, attendance at any SAA in-person event necessarily increases your risk of exposure. If you choose to attend an event in person, you are agreeing to assume all the risks of exposure and to waive any right to make claims against the SAA, its agents, or its members for exposure. Your attendance is also your agreement to present proof of having received full vaccination against COVID-19, and that you will always wear a mask over your nose and mouth, except when actively eating or drinking. You also agree to follow any additional requirements imposed by public health authorities. SAA in-person events will follow current health protocols.

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BOOK SALE

Save the Date! **2023 Book Sale**

When: Thursday, Mar. 30, 2023 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday, Mar. 31, 2023 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, Apr. 1, 2023 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, Apr. 2, 2023 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Place: Loggia, Asian Art Museum

Our Annual Book Sale will take place from Mar. 30 through Apr. 2 at the Asian Art Museum. More details to follow.

Donations for Book Sale

We now accept books throughout the year for our annual Book Sale. So if you move, downsize or are tired of all the books collecting dust in your home, please donate them to our Book Sale. We are accepting books with Asian subjects only, be it art, culture, novels, history, travel, cooking, exhibition catalogs or others.

Due to construction at the museum, we are unable to accept book donations at the SAA office. You can drop off books at the Friday morning Arts of Asia lectures. If you have a lot of books, we are happy to pick them up from your home within the Bay Area. Please contact the SAA office at 415-581-3701 or info@societyforasianart.org for details.