



July - August 2022

No. 4

Message from Incoming President, Marsha Vargas Handley

It is a great honor to be chosen by the Board to be the next President of the Society. Asian art has been an important part of my life for the last fifty years, and I look forward to working with the SAA to increase our knowledge and enjoyment of the culture and objects.

The last two years have been a challenge for our Society, but Ehler Spliedt and the Board met the challenge with our programs becoming virtual and holding meetings on Zoom. Now that we are returning to in-person events and meetings, I look forward to meeting all of our members at events and our Arts of Asia lectures that will resume in August for the Fall 2022 semester.

I want to thank the outgoing Board members for all their hard work and support and welcome the new members to the Board. I look forward to working with all of you to continue our excellent programs and support of the Asian Art Museum.

Finally, I want to thank outgoing President, Ehler Spliedt, for his two years of outstanding leadership and for continuing to serve on the Board for the coming year.

Sincerely,
Marsha Vargas Handley
President



Marsha Vargas Handley

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 catalogues 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.

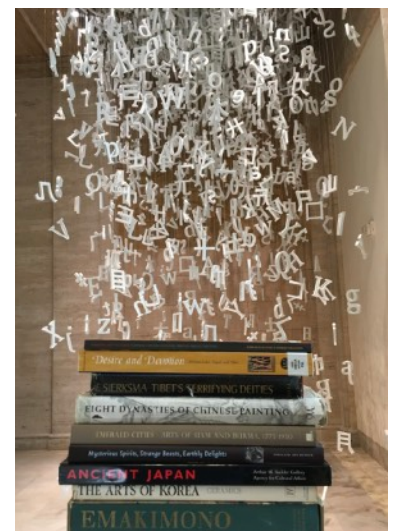


Photo courtesy of Peter Sinton.



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Fall 2022 Literature Course

Jin Ping Mei: The Aphrodisiac, The Climax and The Dissolution



UPCOMING EVENTS (Subject to Change)

Friday, Sept. 16

Study Group - Gamelan: Music Bridge to the West with Henry Spiller

Saturday, Sept. 24

Member Event - Visit to the Ren Brown Gallery in Bodega Bay

Thursday, Sept. 29

Member Event - "Lost Kingdoms" Lecture with Fan Zhang



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members, who joined the Society from April through May. 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!

Nancy Ellis

Kenneth & Joan Campbell

Judi Elman & Gordon Harris

Roxann Filaseta

Jane & H. Kerr

Suzanne Lo & Victor Lim

Sejal Patel & Sanjay Banker

Yi Xie



SOCIAL MEDIA

We need more photos of SAA programs and trips to publish on Instagram and Facebook! The more photos that we post, the more often they will appear for people to like or follow, so our Instagram and Facebook followers can grow more rapidly.

Please submit photos to candacezks@gmail.com, except from Jul. 10 to Aug. 10, when photos should be sent to ila-katz@pacbell.net. Thank you.

Society for Asian Art

July - August 2022, No. 4

Members' Newsletter
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and Susan Lai

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*ex officio



Forging New Connections: Asia in the First Millennium of the Common Era



Left: Seated Buddha, approx. 200–400. Pakistan; ancient region of Gandhara. Schist. Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, The Avery Brundage Collection, B60S557. Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.

Right: Pillow in the form of a boy and a lotus leaf, approx. 1050–1127. China; Hebei province. Northern Song period (960–1127). Porcelain with glaze (Ding ware). Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, The Avery Brundage Collection, B60P1351. Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.

- When: Fridays, Aug. 19 – Nov. 18, 2022**
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 Aug. 12, 2022. 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 Fall 2022 Arts of Asia Lecture Series, entitled “Forging New Connections: Asia in the First Millennium of the Common Era,” continues our Spring 2022 ancient Asia series. The 14-lecture fall series is designed to be a survey of Asian cultures with attention to how they used their natural resources and trade routes in the first 1,000 years of the common era.

The series will provide our audience with a better understanding of key cultural and artistic traditions of Asia. Thus, the Fall 2022 series will offer lectures on Armenia and trade until the Mongols, the advent and growth of Islam in Afghanistan, exchanges along the Silk Road, early Turkic settlements in Central Asia, stone temples of ancient South India, the Seljuqs, the Tang and Song Dynasties of China, Japan before the Shoguns, the Khmer, the Champa, kingdoms in maritime Southeast Asia, kingdoms in Thailand and Myanmar, the Tibetan empire, and Korea’s pivotal role in the transmission of Buddhist art.

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



ARTS OF ASIA FALL 2022 LECTURE SERIES

Speakers & Topics (Subject to Change)

August 19, 2022

The Rise and Florescence of Turkic Nomadic Polities in Central Asia (6th to 12 c. CE): Material and Political interactions Across a Connected World

Michael Frachetti, Professor of Archeology, Washington University, St. Louis

August 26, 2022

Armenia and Trade Until the Mongols

Helen Evans, Curator for Byzantine Art, Department of Medieval Art and The Cloisters, Metropolitan Museum of Art

September 2, 2022

Arts in Afghanistan from the Arrival of Islam to the Ghaznavids

Martina Rugiadi, Associate Curator of Islamic Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art

September 9, 2022

Xuanzang's World: Art and Pilgrimage in Tang China

Anne Feng, Assistant Professor of Chinese Art, Boston University

September 16, 2022

Who Built the Stone Temples of Ancient South India: Key Monuments of the Pallava and Early Chola Period

Padma Kaimal, Batza Professor of Art and Art History, Colgate University

September 23, 2022

Korea's Pivotal Role in the Early Transmission of Buddhist Art to and through East Asia

Jonathan Best, Professor of Art History, Emeritus, Wesleyan University

September 30, 2022

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

Michelle C. Wang, Associate Professor, Georgetown University

October 7, 2022

Consolidation of Power and Visual/Material Culture in the Nara and Heian Periods of Japan

Akiko Walley, Maude I. Kerns Associate Professor of Japanese Art, University of Oregon

October 14, 2022

Celestial Palaces, Axial Mountains, and Cosmic Seas: Ancient Khmer Temple Architecture

Paul Lavy, Professor of South and Southeast Asian Art History, University of Hawaii

October 21, 2022

The Champa Empire of Southeast Asia and Its Relationship with Its Environments and Neighbors during the First Millennium of the Common Era

Kenneth Hall, Professor of History, Ball State University

October 28, 2022

Between the East Indian Ocean and China Sea: Southeast Asia's Port Kingdoms in the Premodern Era

Derek Heng, Professor and Chair of the Department of History, North Arizona University

November 4, 2022

Early Common Era Kingdoms in Thailand, Laos, and Historical Burma

Catherine Raymond, Professor of Art History and Director of Center for Burma Studies, Northern Illinois University

November 11, 2022

The Tibetan Empire and Its Aftermath in Central Asia

Brandon Dotson, Associate Professor and Thomas P. McKenna Chair of Buddhist Studies, Georgetown University

November 18, 2022

The Arts of the Seljuqs from Iran to Anatolia

Deniz Beyazit, Associate Curator, Islamic Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art



MEMBER EVENTS

A Visit to a Collector's Home With Annie Dorsey

When: **Saturday, Jul. 23, 2022**
 Time: **2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**
 Place: **Private Residence in Sausalito**
 Fee: **\$15 per person Society members only. Limited to 20 participants.**
Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jul. 16, 2022.

Enjoy spending time with fellow members while visiting a Society member's home that is filled with Buddhist, Hindu and Jain art from India, Nepal, Tibet and Bhutan.

Annie Dorsey will try to be a good "docent" and share information on her collection and answer your questions while explaining her deep, long-time interest and study of these cultures that developed into a passion.

Tea, drinks, and nibbles will be served, while we enjoy the art and the views.

Address will be provided to registered attendees.



Photo courtesy of Annie Dorsey.



Photo courtesy of Chinese Historical Society of America.

Chinese Historical Society of America

When: **Thursday, Aug. 4, 2022**
 Time: **11:00 a.m.**
 Place: **965 Clay Street, San Francisco**
 Fee: **\$20 per person Society members; \$25 per person non-members (includes admission to the CHSA Museum).**
Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jul. 28, 2022.

Join Society members for a visit to the Chinese Historical Society of America's newly renovated museum and art gallery, located in the historic Julia Morgan YWCA building in Chinatown.

We will visit their current exhibit, a major retrospective on Bruce Lee, where we will see the actor as not only a martial arts expert, but also a visionary, a thinker, and a unifier. A native son of Chinatown, his experiences with discrimination helped shape his unique worldview. The Museum also has historical paintings and photographs on view, showcasing the history of the Chinese presence in San Francisco.

Following our visit to CHSA, we will walk to the murals created by the late artist Hung Liu for the Chinese for Affirmative Action Committee. The walk will be led by Chris Ahn, who participated in the restoration of these murals. She has been designated by Hung Liu as the guardian of the murals.

After the visit, attendees can choose to join an optional no-host lunch at a nearby restaurant.



MEMBER EVENTS

An Insider's Tour of Japantown With Linda Mihara

When: **Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2021**
 Time: **10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**
 Place: **National Japanese American Historical Society Peace Gallery
 1684 Post Street, San Francisco**
 Fee: **\$50 per person Society members only. Limited to 20 participants.
 Advance registration must be received by SAA by Aug. 24, 2022.**

Put on your walking shoes for the second SAA walking tour, this time of San Francisco's Japantown with Linda Mihara. Linda will provide information on the history of Japantown while introducing us to a variety of neighborhood shops and cultural landmarks.

We will stop for lunch at the restaurant Udon Mugizo. During our walk, we will also stop at a history museum, a beautiful private tearoom, a bakery filled with tasty treats, a gallery specializing in ukiyo-e and have an origami lesson. Linda will give us her insider's knowledge of one of San Francisco's most fascinating neighborhoods.

The tour includes lunch (choice of tempura zaru udon or beef donburi), **beverages not included.**

Linda Tomoko Mihara is well known to SAA members for the very popular origami study group she led last year and for the origami exhibit she curated at the Asian Art Museum. An award-winning designer of complex origami artworks, Linda has been a volunteer for and donated her art to a variety of Japanese American cultural programs. She is the owner and manager of Paper Tree in Japantown.



San Francisco Peace Pagoda with cherry blossom trees underneath. iStock photo ID: 948089276. Credit: [David Tran](#).



Linda Mihara



LITERATURE & CULTURE FALL 2022 COURSE

Jin Ping Mei 金瓶梅: The Aphrodisiac, The Climax, and The Dissolution With Stephen Roddy

When: **Mondays, Oct. 17, Oct. 31 & Nov. 14, 2022**
 Time: **10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time**
 Place: **Koret Education Center, Asian Art Museum & Zoom Webinars**
 Fee: **\$105 per person Society members; \$130 per person non-members for the course.
 Advance registration must be received by the SAA by Oct. 10, 2022.**

Traditional Chinese novels tend to be epic in scope, and Chin P'ing Mei is no exception. The last twenty chapters of this book cover not only the destruction of the Ximen household and the dispersal of its surviving members, but the fall of the Northern Song Dynasty at the hands of the Jurchen (Jin) invaders as they overrun the North China plain. But before that happens, the author gradually brings all of the physical and moral excesses of the first 40 chapters to a crescendo in the momentous events of the four "decades" of chapters 40-80. Variations on the family and societal dynamics that we have witnessed earlier—infidelity, jealousy, financial entanglements, political corruption, etc.—become ever more convoluted, revealing ever greater complexity in Pan Chinlian, Li Ping'er, Wu Yueniang, their servants and others in or outside the household. To what extent can we feel empathy or at least pity for characters who have sinned so egregiously? Should we take some comfort in the ways in which nearly all of them receive their just deserts? We will ponder these questions as we make our way through the material splendor that only begins to fade as the family enters its final, terminal decline. Vol. 3-5 of the David Roy translation are all available as e-books.



Bodhidharma (Daruma) holding his shoes, by Suio Genro (Japanese, 1716–1789). Ink on paper. Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, Gift from The Collection of George Gund III, 2016.195. Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.

Stephen Roddy, a professor at the University of San Francisco, received his PhD in East Asian Studies from Princeton University, and specializes in the fiction and other prose genres of 18th and 19th century China and Japan. He teaches courses in Japanese and Chinese literature, culture, and language.



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"/> Jul. 23, 2022 Member Event - A Visit to a Collector's Home <i>Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jul. 16, 2022.</i>	\$15 Members Members only.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 4, 2022 Member Event - Chinese Historical Society of America <i>Advance registration must be received by SAA by Jul. 28, 2022.</i>	\$20 Members \$25 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 19 - Nov. 18, 2022 Fall 2022 Fall Arts of Asia Lecture Series Forging New Connections: Asia in the First Millennium of the Common Era <i>Advance registration must be received by SAA by Aug. 12, 2022.</i>	\$200 Members \$250 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 31, 2022 Member Event - An Insider's Tour of Japantown <i>Advance registration must be received by SAA by Aug. 24, 2022.</i>	\$50 Members Members only.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Oct. 17, Oct. 31 & Nov. 14, 2022 Fall 2022 Literature Course - Jin Ping Mei: The Aphrodisiac, The Climax, and The Dissolution <i>Advance registration must be received by SAA by Oct. 10, 2022.</i>	\$105 Members \$130 Non-Members		

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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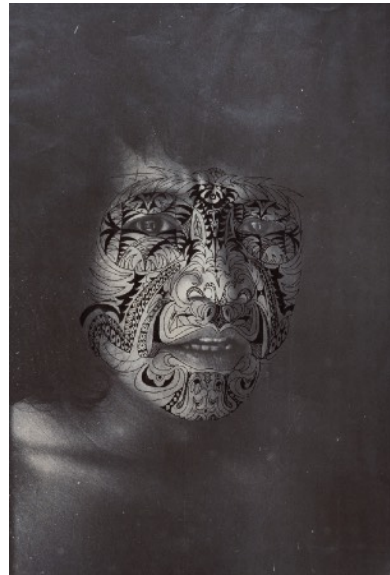
www.societyforasianart.org



CARLOS VILLA: WORLDS IN COLLISION

Don't miss this special exhibition at the Asian Art Museum!

Opening on June 17, 2022, this special exhibition celebrates the work and influence of San Francisco artist Carlos Villa (1936-2013). The New York Times called this “a fascinating document of Villa’s bold and experimental self-expression.”



Left: *Ritual*, 1970–1971, by Carlos Villa (American, 1936–2013). Mixed media on unstretched canvas. Estate of Carlos Villa. Photography © Estate of Carlos Villa. Photograph by Jay Jones. Right: *Tat2*, 1971, from the Tatu series, by Carlos Villa (American, 1936–2013). Ink on ITEK photograph. Estate of Carlos Villa. Photography © Estate of Carlos Villa.