



March - April 2018

No. 2



Dog, approx. 1400–1550. Thailand; Si Satchanalai. Glazed high-fired ceramic. *Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, The James and Elaine Connell Collection of Thai Ceramics, 1989.34.88.* Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.



White spotted black dog with harness, 1800–1962. China. Hide with pigments. *Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, The Avery Brundage Collection, B62D48.74.* Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.



Boy with pup, approx. 1850–1950, by Seiko (Japanese). Elephant ivory. *Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, The Avery Brundage Collection, B70Y443.* Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.

Welcome the Year of the Dog!

Some Asian cultures consider the dog to be an auspicious animal, bringing good luck and fortune if it comes to your house. As the Year of the Dog comes to the Society for Asian Art, we celebrate our 60th anniversary and wish our members a peaceful and prosperous 2018!





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UPCOMING EVENTS (subject to change)

Friday, May 11

Visit to the Phoebe Hearst Museum in Berkeley

Saturday, June 9

Lecture: The Art of Sashiko with Carol Ziogas



Barbara Liddell

It is with great sadness that we learn that former SAA and Docent Board member Barbara Liddell passed away in December. Barbara brought the same enthusiasm for the study of Asian Art that she had demonstrated for many years as a teacher and associate supervisor in Bay Area schools. She traveled on many SAA trips and had exceptional organizational skills, which she used most recently while working on Docent Fund activities. She will be missed.

Society for Asian Art March - April 2018, No. 2

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ARTS OF ASIA SPRING 2018 LECTURE SERIES

Art on the Move Across Asia and Beyond – Part II

When: Fridays, January 26 – April 27
Time: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
Place: Louis B. Mayer Lounge, UC Hastings College of Law Snodgrass Hall, 198 McAllister Street (at Hyde)
Fee: \$175 Society members, \$200 non-members for the series
 \$20 per lecture drop-in, subject to availability

Join the caravan of lectures as Arts of Asia moves in all directions and from the Mongols to the modern era. The discussion continues about the role of art in the exchange of knowledge across the great trade routes within and beyond Asia.

The arts were ambassadors of the cultures that produced them. Lectures include the influence of the Mongols, architecture and aesthetics in the Ottoman Empire, the impact of metallurgy across the region, the effects of Buddhist traditions, 18th century artistic exchanges in garden arts, porcelain, painting, and architecture across the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. After the introductory first lecture, the following five lectures will focus on exchanges within and beyond South, Southeast, and West Asia. The remaining lectures will cover Asia in the West, and the West in Asia.

During the museum transformation, Arts of Asia will meet in UC Hastings Snodgrass Hall Auditorium, 198 McAllister Street at Hyde Street. To expedite your entry into the lecture hall, we encourage purchase of the subscription series. Please plan to arrive at the lecture hall 20 to 30 minutes early, in case there are security check delays.



Gebel (Jonathan Goble), a Black Man, and a Chinese Man, from the Black Ship Scroll, approx. 1854. Japan; Edo period (1615–1868). Handscroll segment mounted as a hanging scroll; ink and colors on paper. Asian Art Museum, Museum purchase with assistance from the Japan Society of Northern California, 2012.60.6. Photograph © Asian Art Museum.

January 26

The Lives of Famous Buddhist Images: Fact and Fiction
 Patricia Berger, UC Berkeley

February 2

East Meets West under the Mongols
 Sheila Blair, Boston College

February 9

From New Spain to Mughal India: A Turkey in Jahangir's Court
 Sugata Ray, UC Berkeley

February 16

Imperial Cities: Architecture and Power in the Ottoman Empire
 Heghnar Watenpaugh, UC Davis

February 23

Bronzes from Ancient Yunnan and Beyond: Stories at a Culture Crossroads
 Chiou-Peng Tze-Huey, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

March 2

The Pali Sphere: Buddhist Traditions of Sri Lanka and Mainland Southeast Asia
 Forrest McGill, Asian Art Museum

March 9

Chinoiserie and Japonisme: Asian Influence and Global Style
 Stacey Sloboda, University of Massachusetts, Boston

March 16

The Garden Landscape in Cross-Cultural Translation: China and the West
 Patricia Yu, UC Berkeley/Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles

March 23

Mosque Lamps and Electric Hearts: Modern Art and Architecture in the Islamic World
 Aneka Lenssen, UC Berkeley

March 30

Artists of the Canton Port
 Winnie Wong, UC Berkeley

April 6

Reciprocal Exoticisms: China and Europe in the Eighteenth Century
 David Porter, University of Michigan

April 13

The "Empress of China" and the Beginnings of the US-China Trade
 John Rogers Haddad, Penn State University Harrisburg

April 20

Searching for the Exceptional: Western Collectors of Asian Art in America
 Amy G. Poster, Curator Emerita of Asian Art at the Brooklyn Museum, New York

April 27

Courts, Politics, and Sino-Tibetan Artistic Exchange
 Karl Debrecny, Rubin Museum, New York



MEMBER EVENTS

Jainism in Indian History and Culture With Kristi Wiley

When: **Saturday, February 24**
Time: **10:30 am to 12:00 pm**
Place: **Education Studios**
Fee: **\$15 Society members; \$20 non-members (after Museum admission)**

Of the religious traditions with origins on the Indian subcontinent, Jainism is the least known in the West. Jains comprise less than one percent of India's population, but the Jain community has exerted a powerful influence on Indian culture for more than 2,500 years since the life of its founder, Mahavira. Nonviolence (*ahimsa*) is at the core of the teachings and profoundly informs Jain ethics and practices to this day.

In this lecture, we will learn about the life and times of Mahāvīra (a contemporary of Gautama, the Buddha); celebrations of the five auspicious moments in his life as illustrated in manuscripts of the Kalpa Sūtra; his teachings regarding the universe and the different forms of life therein; the concept of the 24 Jinas or "Spiritual Victors" in our cycle of time; and Jainism's four sectarian traditions: Śvetāmbara, Digambara, Sthānakavāsī, and Terāpanthī. We will also be introduced to Jain ritual practices, iconography, and some of their spectacular pilgrimage sites.

Dr. Kristi Wiley has been a lecturer in the Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. Her area of specialty is Jainism.



Śvetāmbara image of Pārśvanātha, taken near Ahmedabad

Annual Spring Dinner Dragon Beaux Restaurant

When: **Tuesday, March 6**
Time: **6:00 pm to 8:30 pm**
Place: **Dragon Beaux Restaurant, 5700 Geary Blvd, San Francisco**
Fee: **\$60 Society members; \$65 non-members**
Attire: **Festive**

Join us in celebrating the Year of the Dog with a celebratory feast at Dragon Beaux Restaurant in San Francisco. We will be celebrating the coming of spring with a Chinese banquet featuring auspicious foods and tokens of appreciation. This yearly event brings together Society members for a joyful and delicious feast. Wine will be served.

Invite your friends and join other members in an informal and friendly gathering!

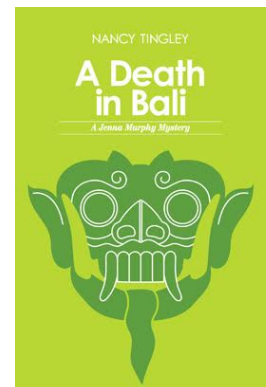


From Fact to Fiction, Fiction to Fact With Nancy Tingley

When: **Saturday, April 7**
Time: **10:30 am to 12:00 pm**
Place: **Education Studios**
Fee: **\$15 Society members; \$20 non-members (after Museum admission)**

How does one get from studying art history to writing fiction? Nancy Tingley has worked for years as a curator, art historian, and consultant and will discuss how her art history experience has fueled her new career as the author of the *Jenna Murphy Mystery Series*. The protagonist in Nancy Tingley's latest book, *A Head in Cambodia* (March 2018), doesn't seem to have much trouble leaping from one to the other.

Well known to SAA members, Nancy Tingley began her career as a curator at the Asian Art Museum, then worked for years as an independent curator and art consultant. She has curated many shows on South East Asian art—her most recent was at the Crocker Museum in Sacramento. Her first book, A Death in Bali, came out in 2001.





ANNUAL MEETING AND 60TH ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION

SAA's Annual Meeting and 60th Anniversary Reception

When: **Thursday, April 19**
 Time: **6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**
 Place: **Samsung Hall**
 Note: **Invitations will be sent to all members**

In addition to our Annual Meeting, we will be celebrating the Society for Asian Art's 60th anniversary. The SAA was officially formed in 1958 by a small group of visionary civic activists for the express purpose of winning Avery Brundage's collection of Asian art for the City of San Francisco. In the face of formidable competition from other cities, SAA's efforts succeeded. We will celebrate this momentous accomplishment and many more with a special look back at activities, events, and highlights of the past 60 years. A special buffet reception will follow the meeting & presentation.



STUDY GROUP

Insight into Taoism With Robert Ashmore

When: **Saturday, April 21**
 Time: **10:30 am to 3:30 pm**
 Place: **Education Studios**
 Fee: **\$35 Society members; \$45 non-members (after Museum admission), includes lunch**

What sorts of beliefs, practices, texts and persons do we refer to when we use the term Taoist? What are the ancient philosophical and self cultivation traditions to which Taoist practitioners trace their beliefs and practices? How did Taoist beliefs, texts and practices fit into the cultural landscape that emerged in Medieval and later China?
 Satisfy your curiosity by joining this special study group given by Dr. Robert Ashmore.

Dr. Robert Ashmore is Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures at UC Berkeley. His research focus is on Chinese literature of the third through eleventh centuries, with special interests in lyric poetry and poetic theory, song and musical performance, and traditional concepts of identity and personality.



BOOK SALE

SAA Annual Book Sale

When: **Friday, April 6**
 Time: **12:30 pm to 4:00 pm**
 Place: **Loggia**
 Fee: **Free after Museum Admission**

Thousands of books, including collector's items, will be available at bargain prices to benefit the museum's C. Laan Chun Library. Selections span a gamut of topics, including Asian art, history, literature, religion, culture, cooking, travel, textiles, jewelry and more.

This year's rarities include books on Japanese netsuke and inro, and the following books on Chinese snuff bottles:

- *Rivers and Mountains Far from the World: The Rachelle R. Holden Collection, a Personal Commentary*
- *The Art of the Chinese Snuff Bottle: The J & J Collection (two-volume set)*

Over the past decade, the sale of donated books has raised more the \$90,000 for the Museum's library, one of the most extensive art libraries in the country. The funds are used to acquire publications and periodicals.

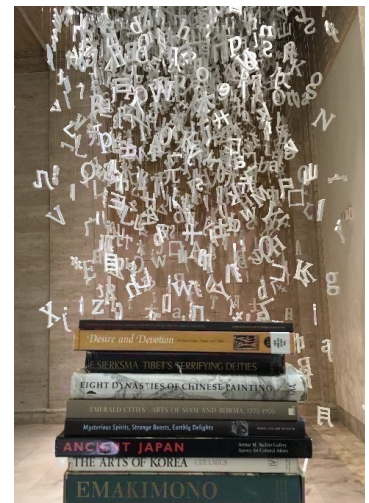


Photo by Peter Sinton



By the Power of Eternal Heaven - The Mongols' Changing View of the Blue Sky Above With Brian Baumann

When: **Sundays, February 25, March 11, April 8, 15, and 29**

Time: **10:15 am – 12:15 pm**

Place: **February 25 to April 15 at Community Room, Opera Plaza;
April 29 at Education Studios, AAM**

Fee: **\$100 Society members; \$125 non-members (after Museum admission on April 29)**

The Mongols saw themselves as destined by heaven to rule the world. In 1206, Chinggis Khan undertook his conquest "By the Power of Eternal Heaven." In 1260 Qubilai Khan adopted a Buddhist teaching which transcended world order given by the amoral vault of heaven with an order predicated upon morality and compassion. In 1578 a certain Mongol lord accepted the teaching of Gelugpa Buddhism and forsook heaven as the ultimate source of his legitimacy. In 1635 the descendants of Chinggis Khan resigned themselves to a heaven that had ceased to recognize them as destined to rule but instead ordained the Qing dynasty of the Jurchen Manchus. And around the turn of the 20th century they saw a heaven itself resigned to a modern world order that rendered it misunderstood and irrelevant.

Primary reading materials (in translation) will be *The Secret History of the Mongols*; "Yeh-lu Ch'u Ts'ai (1189-1243): *Buddhist Idealist and Confucian Statesman*", Dr. Baumann's unpublished translation of a Buddhist verse treatise on salvation in Mongolian verse; and ritual texts related to the supposedly shamanistic deity Cayan ebugen (The White Old Man).

Dr. Brian Baumann is a lecturer in the Department of East Asian Languages and Culture at UC Berkeley, where he teaches courses on Mongolian language, history, and culture.



Medallion of Shoulao, god of longevity,



Lotus Leaves Update

Your SAA journal, *Lotus Leaves*, is available online and better than ever! The Fall 2017 issue included a lavishly-illustrated article by Vince Fausone on snuff bottles, featuring some of the beauties from his collection, and an article by Anna Spudich on the important, but lesser-known transfer of Indian botanical knowledge to Europe over the trade routes. Take a look!

Online publication brings two new features. Now you can click on footnotes and figures (shown in a different color) to be taken to the relevant issue. In addition, as we publish more issues online you will be able to easily search the archives for *Lotus Leaves* issues or articles.

The instructions below show you how to access and/or print *Lotus Leaves*.

To access *Lotus Leaves*:

- Go to the SAA website, <https://www.societyforasianart.org>
- Click on the "Lotus Leaves" button on the banner along the top of the screen. This will open the *Lotus Leaves* page.
- Click on "View PDF" of the issue you would like to read

To print a copy of *Lotus Leaves*:

- Press "Ctrl and P" on your keyboard at the same time

Follow the commands your computer gives you to print a copy

Here are some photos from the recent SAA trip to India:



Photograph by Etsuko Kobata



Travelers in front of Amet Haveli, Udaipur, on the SAA's recent India trip. Photograph by Agnes Brenneman.

More photos from the recent SAA trip to India. Photographs by Etsuko Kobata.





REGISTRATION FORM

How to Register

To Register you may:

1. Go to our website, sign up and pay online: www.societyforasianart.org

OR

2. Print this registration form and send it with a check to: SAA, 200 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

We cannot accept fax registrations at this time. Please use mail, our website, or call the office.

Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. If a program becomes fully enrolled, your payment will be returned. Refunds are granted for cancellations up to one business week before the event and take one or two weeks to process.

SAA does not issue tickets or confirmations. You will be contacted ONLY if your registration cannot be completed.

Paid Programs

Fee

Quantity

Sub-Total

Paid Programs	Fee	Quantity	Sub-Total
<input type="checkbox"/> January 26—April 27: Spring Arts of Asia Lecture Series	\$175 Members \$200 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> February 24: Jainism in Indian History and Culture with Kristi Wiley	\$15 Members \$20 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> February 25, March 11, April 8, 15, and 29: Literature and Culture of Asia	\$100 Members \$125 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> March 6: Annual Spring Dinner	\$60 Members \$65 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> April 7: From Fact to Fiction, Fiction to Fact with Nancy Tingley	\$15 Members \$20 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> April 19: SAA Annual Meeting and Reception	Free, please RSVP		
<input type="checkbox"/> April 21: Study Group—Insight into Taoism and Robert Ashmore	\$35 Members \$45 Non-Members		

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