Bridges East and West

Sitting on the cusp of the Pacific Rim, San Francisco bridges the Western and Eastern worlds. For the first time many iconic artworks by Monet, Gauguin, Cassatt, and others will fill the galleries of the Asian Art Museum, accompanied by Japanese works that influenced them. We think there are many pieces in the Museum’s own collection that could have inspired these famous Western artists.

Looking East
October 30, 2015 – February 7, 2016
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Saturday, November 14
Artist’s Studio Visit with Pat Tseng

Wednesday, December 2
SAA Holiday Party at Ethnic Arts in Berkeley

Fridays, January 22 - April 29
Arts of Asia Spring Lecture Series

UPCOMING EVENTS (subject to change)

Tuesday, February 16
Textiles of Pakistan with John Gillow

Wednesday, February 24
Annual Spring Dinner

Society Book Sale 2016
Donations for our Annual Book Sale are accepted throughout the year. If you have any Asian related books on art, culture, travel, cooking, or novels, please call the SAA office. If you have a couple of boxes, we will pick them up from your home in the Bay Area!

Captions for images on previous page:


PATRONAGE IN ASIAN ART: MONARCHS, MERCHANTS, AND DEVOTEES

When: Fridays, January 22 - April 29
Time: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Place: Samsung Hall
Fee: $175 Society members, $200 non-members (for the series after Museum admission), $20 per lecture drop-in (after Museum admission, subject to availability)

Register now for the spring semester! Setting the stage for the Emperors’ Treasures special exhibition from the National Palace Museum in Taipei next summer, the Society for Asian Art’s Spring 2016 Arts of Asia lecture series will examine the many ways patronage has influenced Asian art. The sponsorship of art by monarchs, merchants, and devotees will be explored throughout Asia. Five of 15 lectures will focus on Chinese patronage from ancient times through several of the most famous imperial dynasties (Song, Yuan, Ming, and Qing). Other famous patrons whose taste and commissioned works will be explored include Jayavarman VII (Angkor Wat), the Safavids in Persia, Jahanara Begum (Shah Jahan’s daughter), and even contemporary patrons like the Samsung family.

As always, a distinguished roster of prominent scholars and curators will be delivering these lectures (see list below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Ancient Chinese Patronage</td>
<td>Yuan Dynasty</td>
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<td>Amy McNair, University of Kansas</td>
<td>Ankeney Weitz, Colby College</td>
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<th>January 29</th>
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<td>Hoam and Kansong Collections</td>
<td>Shah Jahan’s Daughter</td>
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<td>Hyanjeong Kim Han, AAM</td>
<td>Afshan Bokhari, Wellesley College</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Safavids</td>
<td>Medieval Islamic Spain</td>
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<td>Kishwar Rizvi, Yale University</td>
<td>Glaire Anderson, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</td>
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<td>Song Dynasty</td>
<td>Meiji Era</td>
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<td>Alfreda Murck, Independent Scholar</td>
<td>Anne Nishimura Morse, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston</td>
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<td>Dora Ching, Princeton University</td>
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<td>Dunhuang - Tantric Manuscripts</td>
<td>Pala Patronage</td>
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<td>Jacob Dalton, UC Berkeley</td>
<td>Susan Huntington, Ohio State University</td>
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<th>March 4</th>
<th>April 29</th>
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<td>Courtly Lucknow Art</td>
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<td>Tushara Bindu Gude, LACMA</td>
<td>Pat Berger, UC Berkeley</td>
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| March 11 | |
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| Heian Period Buddhist Patronage | |
| Mimi Yiengpruksawon, Yale University | |
Looking East – Looking West
With Helen Burnham

When: Thursday, October 29
Time: 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Place: Samsung Hall
Fee: $15 Society members, $20 non-members (after Museum admission)

The art and culture of Japan inspired leading modern artists, including van Gogh and Monet, to create works of renewed vision and singular beauty beginning in the late 19th century. Join exhibition curator Helen Burnham, the Pamela Voss Curator at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, for a lively introduction to the phenomenon known as japonisme, including many of the renowned masterpieces on view in Looking East: Western Artists and the Allure of Japan.

Helen Burnham’s primary area of expertise is the art of 19th century France. She has a PhD from NYU. Prior to joining the MFA she was assistant curator at the Musee d’Art Americain in Giverny. Currently she is preparing a loan exhibition on Henri Matisse and his personal collection. At the MFA she has organized a number of exhibitions from their collection.

Landscape Paintings of the Late Joseon Period
With Yi Song-mi

When: Friday, October 30
Time: 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
Place: Education Studios
Fee: $15 Society members, $20 non-members (after Museum admission)

A genre of Korean landscape painting termed “true-view” refers to paintings of scenery that actually existed in Korea, and that flowered during the 17th century into the 19th century. After the fall of the Ming dynasty, Koreans became increasingly conscious of their own historical and cultural heritage and their land of exceptional beauty, which Korean scholars absorbed and assimilated into their own cultural environment. It is with this background that the genre of “true-view” landscape paintings evolved. This group of Joseon Dynasty paintings truly expresses the creative energy and ethos of the Korean people.

Professor Yi Song-mi has had a distinguished career as Professor of Art History and Dean at the Academy of Korean Studies and President of Korean Art History Association and lecturer on East Asian Art History at Princeton, where she also received her PhD. She has been conducting in-depth research into the court documents of the Joseon Dynasty, for which she was awarded a medal of the Order of Civil Merit from the Korean government. She has published many books on Korean Landscape paintings of the Joseon Dynasty.

What Floated in the “Floating World”
With Timon Screech

When: Saturday, November 7
Time: 10:30 am - 12:00 noon
Place: Education Studios
Fee: $15 Society members, $20 non-members (after Museum admission)

Japanese art of the “floating world” (ukiyo-e) has enjoyed an international reputation since it was celebrated by the Impressionists as an alternative to European academic hierarchies. However, what was this “floating world?” For people living in early modern Edo, where the images were produced, how did this “floating” consciousness fit into the structure of their normal fixed lives? This talk will introduce ukiyo-e and set it in its historical and political context, with images from some excellent collections of ukiyo-e.

Timon Screech is a professor of art history at SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies) at the University of London, specializing in the art and culture of Edo period Japan. He received a BA from Oxford and a PhD from Harvard University and has been a visiting professor at highly regarded universities in the U.S. and Japan in addition to teaching at SOAS. He has published widely in both English and Japanese, with his most recent book, Obtaining Images, considered the most comprehensive introduction to the arts of the Edo Period.
MEMBER EVENTS

Visit to a Jewelry Artist’s Studio
With Pat Tseng

When: Saturday, November 14
Time: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Place: Artist’s Studio in San Francisco (address TBA to participants)
Fee: $15, limited to SAA members only

Pat Tseng is a jewelry artist of great renown and is especially known for her beautiful corded necklaces made with modern and antique jades. SAA members are fortunate to have been invited to visit her fascinating studio where Pat will demonstrate for us her various techniques of knotting and dyeing the silk cords she uses in her work. We will also be able to view some of her many extraordinary objects that she has collected over the years. Please note that she will NOT be doing any sales at her studio.

Pat was born and raised in Macao. She received her BA at the University of Illinois and has been designing jewelry since the 1970’s. Her work has been featured and sold in prominent museums in the U.S., including the AAM, and at Gump’s in San Francisco.

SAA’s Annual Holiday Party
Ethnic Arts in Berkeley

When: Wednesday, December 2
Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Place: Ethnic Arts, 2236 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley
Fee: $40 Society members, $45 non-members

Come join us for our always fun and friendly holiday party. This year we cross the Bay to Berkeley. The lovely owners of the charming and eclectic Ethnic Arts will open their gallery for SAA members to browse while sipping wine and indulging in their favorite activity: retail therapy. This will be followed by a delicious Burmese repast. The gallery is full of wonderful sustainable crafts and other interesting items that will intrigue your curiosity.

In a different slant on inspiration, Utagawa Hiroshige’s triptych purports to depict a London harbor. Although we see people in Western dress (albeit of different eras) and a somewhat Western-looking building, we can also see that the bridge, the lanterns, and many of the rivercraft are clearly Japanese or Chinese. Did viewers of the time believe this an accurate picture?
We ended our fiscal year on June 30, 2015, with total assets of $2,232,895.97: $44,166.46 in cash and $2,188,279.51 in restricted and unrestricted endowment funds. Our total revenues exceeded our expenses by $6,259.36, and our investments increased by $10,485.21, for a total net income of $16,744.57.

Our net membership revenue was $62,546.25, the Souk netted $29,404.46,* the book sale earned $8,555, and the programs and other events netted $76,203.76, for a total of $176,709.47. Dividends and interest totaled $33,678.44. Net administrative expenses totaled $105,436.60, and contributions to the Museum for the library, 50th Anniversary, capital campaign, and memorials added up to $98,691.95.

The Society’s accounts are maintained on a cash basis, where cash receipts and expenses are recorded only when they occur. Fair Market Value increases and decreases of our investments are also recorded monthly, and the annual net amount is added to unrestricted funds at the end of each fiscal year.

The committee met quarterly with our investment advisor, Keith Woodland of Smith-Barney, to review investment strategy. Mr. Woodland, who serves pro bono, continued his annual appearances at a Board meeting to present current investment strategy. We are invested conservatively in Time Deposits (65%) and Mutual Funds (35%). When interest rates begin to increase, we will purchase longer-term Time Deposits to retain and ensure continued growth. The committee also hosted Mr. Woodland and his staff at Asian Art Museum exhibitions.

*An additional Souk item sold in July (fiscal year 2016) for $1,500, raising the Souk net to $30,904.46.

LOOKING AHEAD AND LOOKING AROUND

SAA Souk

Our next Souk will be in early 2017, and we’ve begun planning for it! Our first priority is to locate a site in San Francisco for collecting and storing donations. If you know of a good location, please contact the Souk Committee Chair, Trista Berkovitz, at trista.b@outlook.com or 415-668-6433. And it isn’t too early to start gathering items you’d like to donate! We plan to begin collecting donations soon and will have collection dates throughout next year. Look for the dates in future newsletter announcements.

50th Anniversary

The Asian Art Museum will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2016. The celebratory year will feature several special exhibitions, the highlight of which is the Emperors’ Treasures, a selection of extraordinary objects from the Palace Museum in Taipei. Many related programs will be scheduled throughout the year, and the SAA will have a distinctive contribution with a commissioned artwork by internationally renowned Chinese ceramic artist Liu Jianhua. Please see page 15 of the Fall A magazine to see how you can participate.

Special Lecture Invitation on October 22 for Society Members

The Asia Foundation has graciously extended an invitation to Society for Asian Art members for an informal tea and presentation “The Underground World of a Hero King.” The talk will be given by Mr. Zebin Li, Deputy Director of the Institute of Archaeology at the Nanjing Museum, on the findings from the recently excavated royal tomb from the Western Han dynasty in Jiangsu Province. It will be Thursday, October 22, at 4:00 pm at the Asia Foundation, 465 California Street, 8th floor, San Francisco.

Note: Attendance is free, but attendees must RSVP by October 16 to Nadia Kelley 415-743-3369 or nadia.kelley@asiafoundation.org.
The SAA Travels to Northern Europe

The signature feature of SAA travel is the unique opportunity to see art not easily accessible to the everyday vacationer, and to learn from curators and scholars about the collections. Our recent Northern European trip with scholar Dr. Stanley Abe of Duke University, was no exception. In addition to curator-led tours of public galleries in the great museums of Stockholm, Cologne, Zurich, and Berlin, the SAA travelers were also invited to view museums’ “behind-the-scenes” storage and conservation areas. Totally unexpected was the invitation from noted Swiss art historian Michael Henss to visit his home in Zurich and view his private collection of Tibetan art, including several outstanding Buddhist paintings and sculptures.

Save the Dates!

The opportunity to sign up for the SAA Toronto trip, June 6-10, 2016, will be available in the January-February newsletter.

Joya no Kane
December 31, 2015

The 16th century bronze bell weighing 2,100 pounds will make its annual appearance in Samsung Hall. It’s the 30th anniversary of the Japanese bell-ringing ceremony at the Museum where members participate in ringing the bell 108 times to remove worldly desires and purify the heart for the new year.

## 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

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Fee Members</th>
<th>Fee Non-Members</th>
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<td>October 24</td>
<td>Exploring Contemporary Japanese Printmakers with Ren Brown</td>
<td>$45 Members</td>
<td>$55 Non-Members</td>
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