

# Society for Asian Art

## Newsletter for Members



May - June 2018

No. 3



Avery Brundage with a few founders of the SAA. Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.

Happy 60th to the SAA!

The Society for Asian Art celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

Look for photos of SAA events and activities over the last 60 years throughout this newsletter.



The Asian Art Museum in Golden Gate Park. Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.

The Society for Asian Art is a support organization



Asian



## IN THIS ISSUE

### Thursday, May 10

Visit to Berkeley Art Museum to see *Cal Conversations: Dreaming the Lost Ming*

### Saturday, May 19

Lecture: Persia and its Neighbors with Stephen Zilles

### Saturday, June 9

Lecture: The Art of Sashiko with Carol Ziogas

### Fridays, August 17 – November 16

Arts of Asia Fall Lecture Series



## UPCOMING EVENTS (subject to change)

### Saturday, July 14

Study Group: Japanese Printmaking with Toru Sugita

### Saturday, July 21

Visit to the Mehri Persian Arts gallery in Sausalito

### Saturday, August 4

Visit to Guillermina Asian Art and Antiques in Point Richmond



2007 SAA Trip to Japan. Photo by Yoshi Fukamiya.

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Members' Newsletter  
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and Susan Lai

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# ARTS OF ASIA FALL 2018 LECTURE SERIES

## Desert Encounters: Arts, Cultures and Kingdoms of the Silk Roads

When: **Fridays, August 17 – November 16**

Time: **10:30 am – 12:30 pm**

Place: **August 17 (Opening Lecture) – State Building, 350 McAllister Street**

**November 2 – location TBD**

**All other lectures at UC Hastings Snodgrass Hall, 198**

**McAllister Street**

Fee: **\$175 Society members, \$200 non-members for the series**  
**\$20 per lecture drop-in, subject to availability**

'Steppe' into the past on a cultural journey covering half the globe and 2500 years, from the first millennium BCE to the Qing period. Explore the art styles, cultural legacies and religions of lost kingdoms and mercantile communities along the so-called silk road. The cultural encounters along the trading networks facilitated the spread of ideas and development of artistic expressions.

Fourteen lectures by prominent scholars will dig into Achaemenid Persian and Bactrian golden hordes from the Oxus river valley, some of the oldest knotted carpets and embroidered silks from Pazyryk's Iron Age culture, early Buddhist images from Gandhara, as well as the Eurasian trade in incense, spice and everything nice, and Tocharian cave murals near Kucha by the Taklamakan desert. Speakers will also decode Central Asian textile designs and illuminated Uighur manuscripts of the Manicheans of northwest China and tantric murals of the Dalai Lama's private meditation chapel. They will also follow Sogdian merchants along their routes, the trade in jade boulders from the Kunlun Mountains, and more.



*Head of a Buddhist deity, approx. 600–700. China; Kucha, Xinjiang Province, Tang dynasty (618–907). Mural fragment, tempera on plaster. Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, Gift of Dr. Richard P. Scherman in memory of Lucian and Christine Scherman, B79D2. Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.*

### August 17

Series Introduction: Imag(in)ing the Silk Roads  
Sanjyot Mehendale, UC Berkeley

### August 24

Transfers and Transformations along the Silk Road: Examples from Pazyryk and Tillya Tepe  
Karen Rubinson, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World at New York University

### August 31

Persia in Central Asia: The Oxus Treasure  
Kim Codella, Cosumnes River College, Sacramento

### September 7

Spread of Gandhara Art in Iranian and Central Asian Context  
Osmund Boppearachchi, UC Berkeley

### September 14

Silk and Spice, and Everything Nice: Trade in Luxuries and Commodities across Eurasia  
Sanjyot Mehendale, UC Berkeley

### September 21

Art of Kucha on the Northern Silk Road Along the Taklamakan Desert  
Monika Zin, Ludwigs-Maximilians-University of Munich

### September 28

Textiles along the Silk Road  
Mariachiara Gasparini, Santa Clara University

### October 5

Ming China and the Silk Roads  
Craig Clunas, Oxford University

### October 12

The Uygur Era of Manichaean Art: Three Centuries of Innovation and Splendor  
Zsuzsanna Gulacsi, Northern Arizona University

### October 19

Sogdian Traders and Others along the Silk Roads  
Judith Lerner, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World at New York University

### October 26

The Jade Road in the Qing Dynasty  
Patricia Berger, UC Berkeley

### November 2

Visions of Emptiness: Unpacking the Murals of the Dalai Lama's Nāga-House  
Jacob Dalton, UC Berkeley

### November 9

The Hero Rustam in Persian and Central Asian Art  
Soroor Ghanimati, UC Berkeley

### November 16

The Afghan Discovery of Buddha: Archeology and Art History in Pre-Taliban Afghanistan  
Nile Green, UCLA



## MEMBER EVENTS

### *Cal Conversations: Dreaming the Lost Ming*

When: **Thursday, May 10**  
 Time: **11:00 am, followed by a no-host lunch at Great China**  
 Place: **Berkeley Art Museum, 2155 Center Street, Berkeley**  
 Fee: **\$15 Society members; \$20 non-members (includes Museum admission)**

This special exhibition was designed, organized, and researched by graduate students at UC Berkeley under the guidance of Associate Curator of Asian Art Julia White, who selected and investigated each work. This exhibition offers insights into the ephemeral world portrayed in the play *The Peach Blossom Fan* (1699), which narrates a tragic tale of dynastic collapse and social disarray. It includes landscape and bird and flower paintings from the Ming to Qing dynasties and is drawn from the permanent collection at BAM. Space is limited. Register early!

*A graduate student, trained by SAA Advisor Julia White, will lead the tour and give us insights into this exhibition by examining the paintings and literature of 17th century China. We would like to help support and promote a new generation of scholars of Asian art.*

### **Persia and its Neighbors With Stephen Zilles**

When: **Saturday, May 19**  
 Time: **10:30 am to 12:00 pm**  
 Place: **Education Studios**  
 Fee: **\$15 Society members; \$20 non-members (after Museum admission)**

Did you know that the AAM Docents offer a Community Speakers Program to bring information about the Asian's collection to Bay Area organizations?

Join CSP speaker, Steve Zilles, as he gives a CSP lecture discussing Greater Persia, an area covering the nations of the Iranian Plateau. The arts and culture of this region enriched the Turks of Central Asia, the Mongols, and the Arabs, while also influencing the arts of India and China.

This talk will use objects from the Asian Art Museum's collection to illustrate cultural ideas that developed in Greater Persia over a period of 6000 years.

*Steve Zilles has been an AAM Storyteller since 2009 and a Docent since 2014. He is an avid world traveler, keen photographer, and a retired computer scientist.*

### **The Art of Sashiko With Carol Ziogas**

When: **Saturday, June 9**  
 Time: **10:30 am to 12:00 pm**  
 Place: **Education Studios**  
 Fee: **\$15 Society members; \$20 non-members (after Museum admission)**

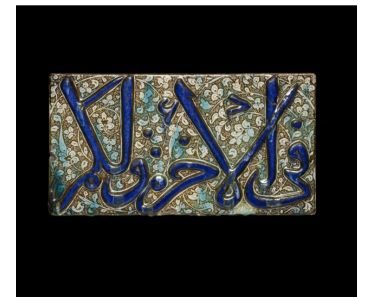
Sashiko originated in Japan as a way to deal with scarce resources, and later evolved into an elegant form of folk craft. From basic stitches that reinforce weak fabrics to elegant personal motifs that express individuality, this art form often evokes a quiet joy and playfulness.

In this talk we will learn about the historical and regional background of sashiko, consisting of a primer on basic stitches and materials commonly used, as well as its effect on the cotton trade in Japan. Vintage pieces from the speaker's personal collection will be available to examine.

*Carol Ziogas is a sashiko teacher, researcher, lecturer, and collector of Japanese textiles. She founded Kimonomomo, an online shop specializing in sashiko and Japanese fabrics and sewing notions. She writes about her trips to Japan at the [ardenthread.com](http://ardenthread.com).*



*Yuan Jiang: The Garden of the Secluded Villa, 1706; ink and color on paper; 7 1/2 x 20 7/8 in.; BAMPFA, purchase made possible through a gift from Jane Lurie.*



*Tile with calligraphy, 1275–325. Iran; probably Kashan. Glazed fritware with luster decoration. Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, The Avery Brundage Collection, B60P2132. Photograph © Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.*



*Photo by Etsuko Kobata*

**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 and watch for the Spring 2018 issue, which will be out in May!

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



Cover of Fall 2017 *Lotus Leaves* issue



An early SAA Souk. Photo by Ehler Spliedt.



SAA members visiting with an artist. Photo by Ehler Spliedt.



# REGISTRATION FORM

## How to Register

To Register you may:

1. Go to our website, sign up and pay online: [www.societyforasianart.org](http://www.societyforasianart.org)

OR

2. Print this registration form and send it with a check to: Society for Asian Art, 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
<input type="checkbox"/> August 17—November 16: Fall Arts of Asia Lecture Series	\$175 Members \$200 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> May 10: Visit to Berkeley Art Museum to see Cal Conversations: Dreaming the Lost Ming	\$15 Members \$20 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> May 19 Lecture: Persia and its Neighbors with Stephen Zilles	\$15 Members \$20 Non-Members		
<input type="checkbox"/> June 9: Lecture: The Art of Sashiko with Carol Ziogas	\$15 Members \$20 Non-Members		

Total Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  MC  Discover \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
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