

**THE  
ORIENTAL CERAMIC SOCIETY**  
(Registered Charity No. 250356)

**Minutes of the 97<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Members  
held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 at 5.30 pm  
at the Society of Antiquaries of London  
Burlington House, Piccadilly, London**

The President, Jessica Harrison-Hall, began the meeting by welcoming everyone present to the 97<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Society. She reported that our Patron, His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, was regrettably unable to join us this evening, but confirmed how grateful we were for His Royal Highness's patronage and continued interest in the Society. Apologies for absence had been received from one Council member. To help our Secretary, the President asked if all proposers and seconders of the various agenda items would please state their names.

**1. Minutes of the last AGM held on 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2017**

The President stated that the Minutes of the AGM held on 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 had been circulated to Council, and asked two members of Council to propose and second them, so that she could sign the Minutes, as being a correct record of the meeting. There being no questions, this was proposed by Peter White and seconded by Stuart Balmer. The Minutes were then duly signed by the President.

**2. Accounts**

The Society's accounts had been prepared by our Hon. Treasurer, Peter White, published in the 2018 Report of the Council prior to the AGM, and distributed to all Council members. The Report and Accounts were also posted on our website for members of the Society to read prior to the AGM. The President first thanked Carol Michaelson, Cyril Beecher, Lincoln Chin, Mary Ginsberg and Vaughan Hart in addition to Peter for their work on the Finance Committee. The Honorary Treasurer then gave a brief overview of the year's finances:-

'I am very pleased to report that we have had another successful year with a steady membership. All our lectures are sponsored and advertisements in TOCS and the Newsletter have increased.

We had a surplus for the year of £10,000 with a very strong balance sheet. All our lectures are sponsored and pre-lecture drinks provided by Woolley & Wallis. We expect much the same result in the current year, i.e. a surplus of around £10,000. We are now saving up for our centenary events in 2021. There is no question of subscriptions needing to be raised for the time being. The accounts have been posted on our website. There is sufficient money in hand for printing and mailing of the 2016 exhibition catalogue *China without Dragons* this autumn.

All in all, your Society is strong, prosperous and successful and I feel we are in a good position going forward and I commend the accounts for the membership's approval.'

There were no questions from the floor. The accounts were proposed by Cyril Beecher and seconded by Vaughan Hart. The President thanked Peter White for all his work on the society's finances.

### **3. President's AGM Report**

We currently have just under 700 members including five Patron members and forty Benefactor members. In response to this we have introduced a ten-year membership for new Patron and Benefactor members for the price of nine years. Our membership stays steady at around 700 each year.

#### Report on the past year

All the Autumn, Spring and Summer programmes since the last AGM have been very popular with high attendance figures from members.

#### Exhibition catalogue

The catalogue for our 2016 exhibition *China without Dragons* by Regina Krahl is currently in production and will be available in the Autumn. The President particularly thanked Regina Krahl for her work on this project. She also thanked Sotheby's for kindly hosting the book launch on 4<sup>th</sup> November at Sotheby's.

#### Centenary Exhibition in 2021

An exhibition committee has begun work to shape an exhibition and conference for the centenary of the Society in 2021. The exhibition will focus on 100 years of collecting and the influence the OCS has had on ceramics.

#### Lectures

We had had some fantastic lectures this year, with speakers travelling from Asia and the USA, as well as from across the UK. Since our AGM last year we have had 10 lectures, plus tonight's lecture.

In October last year, Patricia Ferguson, National Trust Adviser on Ceramics presented *The National Trust's Chinese Armorial Porcelain at Osterley, Shugborough and Kedleston*. During Asian Art in London week in November, Bonhams Annual OCS Lecture at Bonhams was given on a Preview of the Sir Joseph Hotung Gallery of China and South Asia by Jessica Harrison-Hall, Head of the China Section and Curator of Chinese Ceramics (including the Sir Percival David Collection) and Richard Blurton, Head of the South and Southeast Asia Section, both of the British Museum. Also during Asia week Dr Hiromi Kinoshita, The Hannah L. and J. Welles Henderson Associate Curator of Chinese Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art presented *Han dynasty painted bronzes*. In December, Beth McKillop, Senior Research Fellow at the Victoria & Albert Museum, gave the Sir Michael Butler Memorial Lecture on *New research on the V&A Collection of Kesi Tapestries*. Linda Rosenfeld Pomper (Schulsky) has been writing about Chinese export porcelain since the 1980's and explored *The Burghley Porcelains* in January. The Sonia Lightfoot painting lecture was given by Chair of Asian Art and Curator of Chinese Art at the Cleveland Museum of Art, Dr. Clarissa von Spee, on Multiples in Chinese Painting - Reassessing 'dismissed' paintings in historic museum collections. The Annual Woolf Jade lecture was given by Prof. Qin Ling, Associate Professor, School of Archaeology & Museology, Peking University on *Power in Things: the*

*Neolithic jades and early complex societies in China*. Dominic Jellinek co-author of "Provenance", a biographical dictionary of English and American collectors of Chinese ceramics presented *Marcus Ezekiel: A Collector Rediscovered*. The Mok Family Lecture sponsored by the Dr. Mok Hing Yiu Charitable Foundation was given by Tang Hui, who works at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, as an Exhibition Curator, working on a special exhibition about the Song Maritime Silk Road. Her topic was *Chinese porcelain shops and export porcelain trade*. This OCS AGM lecture, sponsored by Sotheby's, is given by Sarah Cheang, Senior Tutor at the Royal College of Art *Chinoiserie Fashions and Chinese Interiors: Fashion, Taste and Identity in Twentieth Century Britain*.

Our first lecture after the Summer break will be Shelly Xue, Associate Professor, Shanghai Institute of Visual Art Researcher, Shanghai Museum of Glass on *The Investigation of Qing dynasty Chinese glass in European Countries*.

### Sponsors

We have again this year received generous financial support from a number of individual and corporate members, which helps keep the finances in a healthy state. I would particularly like to thank Anthony du Boulay for his generous donation to the Society at the end of last year, which we plan to put to good use in our centenary celebrations in 2021. Regarding our lecture programme, we now have annually:-

- The Woolf Jade lecture sponsored by Mr. Jonathan Woolf and the Woolf Charitable Trust
- The Sonia Lightfoot Memorial paintings Lecture sponsored by her husband John Lightfoot
- The Sir Michael Butler Memorial Lecture sponsored by Katharine and Charles Butler
- The Mok family export art lecture supported by the Dr Mok Hing Yiu Charitable Foundation

Plus generous sponsorship for lectures, receptions and drinks from Woolley & Wallis, Bonhams, Sotheby's, Christie's, and Duke's auction houses. All this support helps to keep membership fees down, to make receptions like tonight's free of charge, and to make it possible to invite major lecturers from abroad to the UK to present their work. So, many thanks to all our sponsors.

We are always looking for further sponsorship to support the lecture programme and, if anyone would like to undertake this, please do see me afterwards at the buffet reception, which we would like to encourage all members to stay for.

### Advertising

We are most grateful to those members who support the Society through advertisements in the Transactions and also the Newsletter, as this helps to defray the costs of printing and mailing these publications. As printing and postage costs increase each year, the Society depends more and more on such advertising. It is also a good way of communicating with members.

### TOCS 81

Grateful thanks to Dr Stacey Pierson and Mary Ginsburg for their fine editing of this year's TOCS which looks as if it will be absolutely beautiful and maintains the high standard of new research that we expect from OCS lectures and articles. Without this original research we would lose the OCS USP!

### Handling sessions and ceramic tours

Members have enjoyed some great handling sessions of very high quality pieces including Chinese textiles at the V&A hosted by Beth McKillop and at Christies hosted by Leila de Vos Van Steenwijk and Rosemary Scott, for which we are all most grateful.

Harry Douglas-Hamilton and Willemijn van Noord continue to organise excellent tours, both in the UK and Europe. Two trips have been organised this year in Germany and Spain. The first trip is to Dresden in Germany, next week. Our visit coincides with a conference organised by the Porcelain Collection in Dresden titled: *Porcelain Circling the Globe: International Trade Structures and the East Asia Collection of Augustus the Strong*. We will be attending this conference and a number of other attractions to include: The Green Vault and Turkish Chamber in Dresden Castle, Pillnitz Palace, the Zwinger Porcelain Collection, the gardens of the Japanese Palace, the Meissen museum and the Grassi Museum in Leipzig.

Our other trip this year is to Madrid in September. We will be visiting the following collections: the Museum of Decorative Arts, the Naval Museum, the Archaeological Museum, the Royal Palace in Madrid, the Royal Monastery of San Lorenzo El Escorial, the Royal Palace of La Granja de San Ildefonso, the Royal Palace of Aranjuez and the Oriental Museum in Valladolid.

Both tours are fully booked. These tours have been very popular and we encourage members to sign up to them as soon as the information is available. We want to thank our team of organisers, Cinta Krahe, Harry Douglas-Hamilton and Willemijn van Noord.

These trips are now a real highlight of the calendar and well worth signing up for next year, when it is hoped more OCS trips will take place, both to Europe and within the U.K.

### Newsletter

In 2017 Dr George Manginis, who transformed the OCS Newsletter, finished his final edition. We are delighted that Teresa Canepa and Beth Gardiner came forward after the last AGM and took on the challenge. I am sure all members agree that, building on George's excellent legacy in their first edition, they have taken the Newsletter to new heights. The 2018 issue is full of interesting articles, book reviews and the latest Asian news. A perfect complement to the *Transactions* which, historically, have required a much longer lead time because of authors' submissions and copyright clearances. People with ideas and suggestions including for the calendar in the Newsletter should speak to Teresa and Beth.

### Digital

Our web presence - OCS website, Wikipedia entry and Facebook page - are all still areas we are gradually improving but we now have a fully digitised set of TOCS in a members' only area on the website, which is password protected. Thanks go to Chun I Lin for her work on this.

## **4. Council Elections**

Sadly I have to stand down today, having served for three years as your President. However, I am delighted to say that Beth McKillop, former Deputy Director of the Victoria & Albert Museum, has agreed to take over this role. This was proposed by Malcolm McNeill and seconded by Regina Krahl.

The Vice President and Honorary Treasurer, Peter White, and the Honorary Secretary and Editor of Transactions, Dr. Stacey Pierson, retire under Articles 44 and 45. I would like to thank them for their sterling work and am delighted that they both offer themselves for re-election. Vaughan Hart, Assistant Honorary Secretary, also offers himself for re-election, and we thank Vaughan for his contributions to the running of the Society. These were proposed by Harry Douglas-Hamilton and seconded by Sarah Wong.

There were no new Council members elected in 2015 and therefore none retire this year. Council has agreed to co-opt Harry Douglas-Hamilton and Willemijn van Noord (Curator of the Museum of World Cultures in Leiden) on to Council for a further year so they will continue to be responsible for organising OCS tours. Angela McAteer will remain on Council as our North America representative. Mary Ginsberg will continue as part of the Finance Committee. Ming Wilson will continue as the OCS representative at the V& A Museum and I will take over as representative at the British Museum.

In addition, this year, we would like to propose the following three new members of council:-

**Clive Jacotine** has a particular interest in arts of the scholar's studio. He is retired, most recently as a management consultant specialising in leadership, partnership development, strategic planning and project delivery. He has been on a range of boards and chaired a local charity. Proposed by Willemijn van Noord and seconded by Harry Douglas-Hamilton.

**Beth Gardiner** is an independent researcher living in London. She received her Undergraduate Degree in Art History from Duke University and her Masters from Sotheby's Institute in London. She worked for a decade as a producer for NBC News in both the Washington DC bureau and at Rockefeller Center in New York City. In London she has worked closely with Teresa Canepa on several books. She has recently published her first article on early 17th century Chinese porcelain discovered in Jamestown, Virginia, the first permanent English settlement in North America. Proposed by Willemijn van Noord and seconded by Asaph Hyman.

**Teresa Canepa** is an independent researcher and lecturer in Chinese and Japanese export art. She completed a PhD in Art History at Leiden University, The Netherlands. The main focus of her research is Portuguese and Spanish trade in Chinese porcelain and Japanese lacquer to Europe and the New World in the 16th and early 17th centuries, on which she has published a number of articles and lectured widely. Proposed by Cyril Beecher and seconded by Helen Espir.

So the new make-up of Council is 17 people:-

1. Beth McKillop (President)
2. Peter White (Vice President and Honorary Treasurer)
3. Dr Stacey Pierson (Hon. Secretary & Editor of TOCS)
4. Vaughan Hart (Assistant Hon. Secretary)
5. Jessica Harrison-Hall (Representative at the BM)
6. Ming Wilson (Representative at the V&A)
7. Angela McAteer (Representative in North America)
8. Harry Douglas-Hamilton (Council member responsible for tours)
9. Willemijn van Noord (Council member responsible for tours)

10. Stuart Balmer
11. David Canty
12. Asaph Hyman
13. Dr Malcolm McNeil
14. Dr Sarah Wong
15. Clive Jacotine
16. Beth Gardiner
17. Dr Teresa Canepa

## 5. Any Other Business

So with this we come to Any Other Business where it remains for me to say that I have thoroughly enjoyed my final year as President. It is a great privilege to contribute to the history and activities of the Society. I am supported by the various members of Council, especially Mary Painter our wonderful Secretary, Peter White Deputy President and Honorary Treasurer, Dr. Stacey Pierson, Honorary Secretary and Editor of TOCS, Teresa Canepa and Beth Gardiner, editors of the Newsletter and Mary Ginsberg and others for their work on the financial committee.

Peter White said that he wished to record, at the end of her three year tenure as President, what a wonderful President Jessica had been. Even with her British Museum and family responsibilities, she had always been available for decisions and discussions. She is very good with people, extremely knowledgeable, has handled Council very well and been a huge asset to the Society. He invited the members, with Council, to express their thanks to her.

This ends the AGM and we can now move on to the lecture, which will be followed by a reception with drinks and canapés sponsored by Sotheby's. I would like to thank Robert Bradlow, head of Sotheby's Chinese Department, very much for their support.

My last task will be to introduce our speaker tonight:

**Dr Sarah Cheang** is Senior Tutor in the History of Design at the Royal College of Art, London. She had previously taught in the department of Cultural and Historical Studies, London College of Fashion (2004-2011), where she developed her fashion specialism. She gained her Masters Degree (1999) and Doctorate (2003) from the University of Sussex, working in a History of Art department that was remarkable for the global breadth and post-colonial emphasis of its programmes. Sarah's research centres on transnational fashion, material culture and the body from the nineteenth century to the present day, on which she has published and lectured widely. Her work is characterized by a concern with the ways people experience and express ethnicity through fashion and body adornment. She co-edited the collection *Hair: Styling, Culture and Fashion* (2008), writing on hair and race, as well as reflecting more generally on the meanings of hair within a wide range of cultures. Fascinated by states of in-between and the creative potential of metamorphosis and misunderstanding, she recently led the research project *Fashion and Translation: Britain, Japan, China, Korea* (2014-15), exploring East Asian identities through the ways that fashion travels between cultures. Sarah has a special interest in the role of Chinese material culture within histories of Western fashion, and her next book, *Sinophilia*, will explore these themes in relation to dress, the body, interior design, shopping, and even Pekingese dogs. Please warmly welcome Sarah to present *Chinoiserie Fashions and Chinese Interiors: Fashion, Taste and Identity in Twentieth Century Britain*.