

ORIENTAL CERAMIC SOCIETY

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SPRING PROGRAMME 2020

Dear Members

Since I last wrote to you in September 2019, the Society's lecture programme has been outstanding.

In October, Dr Stacey Pierson discussed 19th-century collecting of China's architectural ceramics including tiles, bricks, roof ornaments and statuary. She drew our attention to the unusual status of these objects in the eyes of British collectors of the time, suggesting that there are points of comparison and points of difference when considering 18th century 'Grand Tour' collecting alongside 19th century collecting out of Britain's military engagements in China.

We heard two excellent lecturers in November. Dr Johannes Wieninger introduced Habsburg collections of Chinese porcelain, with particular focus on the inventory books from Ambras Castle. He also described the collections of the Austrian Museum of Applied Arts and their history, in a beautifully illustrated and well-attended presentation at Bonhams. Later in November, Dr Anna Wu, now an independent scholar based in the United States, discussed her research about Chinese wallpaper in a wide-ranging paper that used case studies from the 18th through to the 21st centuries. 2019 ended with another visiting lecturer from North America, Dr Laurie Ross, who spoke to us about commerce and aesthetics in colonial Java. Dr Ross was pleased to be in London during the showing of *Sir Stamford Raffles, Collecting in Southeast Asia 1811-1824* at the British Museum, and our members were able to visit the show with Dr Green of the British Museum, for which we are very grateful. Dr Ross' lecture highlighted Java's trading and religious links with India, with China, and with the Islamic world. She vividly demonstrated the ways that Javanese artists transformed motifs from diverse sources to create a 'distinctively global aesthetic'.

Our first lecture of 2020 considered the role of the French architect André Goddard in creating the National Museum of Iran in Tehran, and used archival materials from the lecturer's doctoral studies to tell an extraordinary story of cultural policy and change during the reign of Reza Shah Pahlavi (1925-1941). The lecturer was Sarah Piram, Iran Heritage Foundation Curator at the V&A. During 2020 we can look forward to lectures on Chan painting, jade collecting, Blanc de Chine and more. Also in January, members visited the V&A to learn about the Korean collection there with the curator, Dr Rosalie Kim.

Members of Council have been busy working towards our centenary year, 2021. I want to mention the ongoing work by members of the exhibition committee, and in particular Malcolm McNeill and his colleagues at Christies. Their support in photographing the pieces that will be shown in the 2021 Brunei Gallery exhibition is invaluable. We have encouraging news too about fundraising for the exhibition, and also about the catalogue, which is edited by Sarah Wong with contributions by distinguished experts in the field, that will accompany it. I am grateful to everyone for their generosity and hard work.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our lectures and viewing sessions.

Beth McNeill

2020 PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

Lectures will be held at the Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BE, either at 6.00 p.m., or with welcome drinks in advance, at 5.45 p.m. for 6.15 p.m., unless otherwise noted*.

Tuesday 11th February

5:45 pm for 6:15 pm with welcome drinks sponsored by Christie's

The Sonia Lightfoot Annual Memorial Paintings Lecture sponsored by John Lightfoot

Dr. Malcolm McNeill, Chinese Painting Specialist, Christie's London

Tales of Eccentrics and Exemplars: Text image relationships in Chan Figure Painting

This talk examines the relationship between image and text in paintings of figural subjects from thirteenth and fourteenth century Chinese Chan Buddhism (Chan is better known through its Japanese successor, Zen). In Song and Yuan China, monastic and secular artists produced a significant body of paintings depicting the Chan pantheon's eccentrics and exemplars. These paintings were often inscribed by senior Chan clerics, who gifted the inscribed works to prominent disciples. These disciples included numerous monks who had travelled from Japan to study at the feet of Chinese masters. The majority of Chan figure paintings existing today survive because of this practice of collecting. In Japan, Chan figure paintings have come to be venerated as the predecessors to later Japanese Zen painting. This talk is concerned with their original Chinese context.

In his lecture Dr. McNeill will argue that these inscribed paintings combined pictorial and lexical content to retell important narratives. These visual narratives were adapted from prototypes in Chan hagiographies: collected tales of exemplars from the Chan lineage, and of eccentrics from the lineage's periphery. Paintings of Chan figures and the inscriptions upon them communicated religious teachings to their viewers. They mediated the viewer's relationship to the Chan pantheon. Moreover, they underscored the authority of the living members of the Chan lineage who had inscribed the paintings. This talk analyses the network of connections between painters, inscribers, subjects and viewers of Chan figure paintings. In doing so, it addresses an under researched dimension of thirteenth and fourteenth century Chinese visual culture.

Malcolm McNeill is a Chinese Painting Specialist based at Christie's, London, sourcing consignments for both Christie's European and Hong Kong auctions. He holds a PhD and MA in Art History from SOAS, and a BA in Chinese studies from Cambridge. He was formerly an Assistant Curator in the Asian Department of the Victoria and Albert Museum, a Research Assistant at the British Museum, and a translator and tour guide at the National Palace Museum, Taipei.

Tuesday 10th March, 2020

Annual Woolf Jade Lecture sponsored by the Woolf Charitable Trust

5:45 pm for 6:15 pm with welcome drinks

Robert Tang, Private Collector of the published Chinese Jades from the Cissy and Robert Tang Collection

In Pursuit of Jade: My Personal Journey

Robert Tang is a private collector of Chinese jade. 100 pieces of the collection were published in "The Cissy and Robert Tang Collection of Chinese Jades" authored by Professor Jenny So and Dr. Chu Xin. 108 pieces of the collection were exhibited at the Art Museum, Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2015-6, curated by Dr. Xu Xiaodong, the Assistant Director of the Museum, with the assistance of Dr. Chu Xin.

In the lecture, Robert Tang will talk about his experience as a collector, and how jade has been collected through time, especially in the twentieth century. He will also talk about a few objects in their Collection to illustrate points about the long history in the collection of jades and the perennial difficulty about their dating. He will also compare a late Warring States (3rd Century B.C.) dancer in their collection, which was first published by Salmony in 1938, with what appears to be its mirror image, which was excavated in 2015 in Nanchang, Jiangxi from the apparently intact tomb of the Marquis of Haihun (92 B.C. – 59 B.C.), who had reigned as Emperor in 74 B.C. before he was deposed after 27 days.

Tuesday 7th April

Lecture sponsored by Dreweatts

5:45 pm for 6:15 pm with welcome drinks

Peter Ting and Ying Jian

Whiter shades of pale: Blanc de Chine – a continuous conversation

Currently at the V&A there is an exhibition about Blanc de Chine

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/event/Bq0Lp1qk/blanc-de-chine-a-continuous-conversation>

This lecture will be prefaced by an introduction from Dr Xiaoxin Li, V&A curator of China collections, introducing the curatorial thinking behind her current display 'Blanc de Chine – a continuous conversation'. In the lecture, Ying Jian will talk about historical Dehua Blanc de Chine, its unchanging making methods, and its relationship with Europe and the wider world. Industrial production of Blanc de Chine will also be discussed. Peter Ting will then speak about his love of Blanc de Chine and his early encounter with the material, as well as introducing work he has produced with local craftsmen. Peter will discuss the inspiration behind his pieces that have been included in the V&A display, and will explain his diverse sources of inspiration, which range from Macaroni, to Marco Polo and Elvis Presley. Ting and Ying will also discuss their period as invited 'artists in residence' at Dehua.

Peter Ting is an established ceramic artist, tableware designer and curator. His creations can be found in permanent collections in numerous museums globally, including British Museum, V&A, Ulster Museum, MAD (Museum of Art and Design, New York), M+ Museum and National Museum of China. Peter Ting has a successful career as a tableware designer, working with brands including Thomas Goode, Legle, Asprey and Garrard, while his other clients have included HM The Queen, HRH The Prince of Wales, Royal Crown Derby, Fortnum & Mason, Royal Salute, Harrods, Liberty, Barneys, Neiman Marcus and Gump's. In 2017, Peter launched Ting-Ying, an online gallery specializing in Blanc de Chine porcelain from Dehua China. He is currently Trustee of QEST (Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust), the charitable arm of The Royal Warrants Holders Association.

In April 2012, Ying Jian co-founded Kaolin, a professional ceramic media platform in China for spreading ceramic culture and introducing ceramic makers. In 2016, he established Ting-Ying Gallery in collaboration with Peter Ting, with a view to highlighting the modernity of the traditional crafts of China's famed Dehua white porcelain. At the same time, Ying Jian launched an artist-in-residence project in Dehua, Fujian and invited contemporary artists and designers from all over the world to interact with the ancient skills, so as to define new ways of thinking and production. Ting-Ying Gallery was admitted as a member of International Academy of Ceramics (IAC) under UNESCO in October 2017. In February 2018 Ting-Ying Gallery made its debut at 'Collect' as the first gallery from China.

Tuesday 28th April

The Dr. H. Y. Mok Charitable Foundation Lecture on export ceramics sponsored by Edwin Mok

5:45 pm for 6:15 pm with welcome drinks sponsored by Woolley & Wallis

Prof. Dr. Christiaan Jörg

From Tang to Qing: Some enigmatic exported Chinese ceramics

The history of Chinese ceramics that arrived in Northern Europe is well researched, but there are gaps in our knowledge and pieces that don't fit into the accepted patterns. In particular, new archaeological discoveries sometimes raise questions that the (art) historian cannot easily answer, which is what makes these puzzling pieces so interesting!

Prof. Jörg doesn't pretend to have all the answers but would like to share the challenges. In his presentation he will start with what he calls 'the Riga cup', a small Chinese (?) vessel in Tang style, excavated from a 10th-century Viking tomb in the Baltic area. It is not an isolated find of Asian origin, because it can be compared with, for instance, excavated silks, but it is certainly the earliest known piece of exported Oriental ceramics in Northern Europe.

A second puzzling piece is a Wanli dish, evidently made for the Persian market, which ended-up as sherds in the earth in a small village in the north of Groningen province, the Netherlands. It is of a hitherto unknown type and one wonders about the journeys it made and why it was treasured in the North.

A third challenge is posed by a group of early 18th-century plates, well represented in the Dresden collection of Augustus the Strong, but elsewhere as well. The different versions of the botanical design raise the question of how a Western model or print (still unidentified) circulated in Jingdezhen and how one variation led to another.

Christiaan J. A. Jörg (1944) was curator of Asian ceramics at the Groninger Museum, Groningen, the Netherlands. He was also professor at Leiden University teaching East-West interactions in decorative Art. Presently he is academic supervisor of the Dresden Porcelain Project, which aims to produce a complete catalogue of the Asian porcelains in the former collection of Augustus the Strong.

Prof. Jörg has curated several major exhibitions and lectured widely in Europe, the Far East and the United States. He has published a number of influential books, catalogues and articles on Asian export porcelain and Japanese export lacquer.

Tuesday 16th June

AGM, lecture and reception sponsored by Bonhams

AGM starts at 5:30 pm followed by lecture and food and drinks reception

Dr. Edward Luper, Chinese Art, Bonhams

Art Objects and Nostalgia in the 'Dream of the Red Mansions'

In the 18th century novel *The Story of the Stone* (石頭記) by Cao Xueqin 曹雪芹 (1715-1763) art objects play an important part in provoking within some characters personal memories and nostalgia, most often exclusively linked to the death of a relative or loved one. In the novel, objects that provoke nostalgia and memory for the dead are not comforting, rather following Buddhist ideas regarding attachment, they are associated with causing pain and suffering. Yet the deep attachment to material objects and of nostalgia that permeates the novel (both from the characters and the author himself) appears to counter with the Buddhist teaching of impermanence and non-attachment. This paper argues that the author ultimately used the pain and suffering that came with attachment to objects through memory and nostalgia as a device to show the illusory nature of this world and that greater understanding of it could lead eventually to enlightenment.

Edward Luper is a specialist of Chinese Art at Bonhams London. He studied Chinese language (modern and classical) at SOAS before continuing with a masters and D.Phil at Oxford University. His thesis was on the Ming dynasty artist and poet Xu Wei (1521-1593).

Tuesday 13th October

Lecture sponsored by Duke's

5:45 pm for 6:15 pm with welcome drinks

Rachel Peat, Royal Collections Trust
Japanese ceramics in the Royal Collection

From 12 June to 8 November 2020 there will be an exhibition entitled *Japan: Courts and Culture* on show at the Queens Gallery. For information, go to:

<https://www.rct.uk/collection/themes/exhibitions/japan-courts-and-culture/the-queens-gallery-buckingham-palace>

Monday 2nd November

OCS Asia Week lecture sponsored by Sotheby's

Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London W1A 2AA

Professor LV Chenglong, Deputy Director of the Antiquities Department at the Palace Museum, Beijing

Recent research into the ceramic collections of the Palace Museum

Tuesday 10th November

Sponsored by Lyon & Turnbull

5:45 pm for 6:15 pm with welcome drinks

Lu, Pengliang, Associate Curator of Asian Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

The Nanping Hoard: A Time Capsule of Bronzes from the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368)

Tuesday 8th December

The Sir Michael Butler Memorial Lecture sponsored by Katharine and Charles Butler

5:45 pm for 6:15 pm with welcome drinks sponsored by Woolley & Wallis

Helen Glaister, SOAS

Collecting in Public and Private: The Ionides Collection of Chinese Export Porcelain, 1920-1970.

OCS Programmes

The Society publishes a programme of lectures and events three times per year. Most members now stay in contact with us by email. The Society's website www.ocs-london.com also publishes up to date information about our lectures and events. Postage costs continue to rise every year and we are also mindful of the environmental impact of printed documents. We regret to advise members that Council have decided that, for these reasons, after this summer's edition of the programme we will no longer mail hard copies to our members who don't use email. If this applies to you, please would you send Mary Painter, our administrator, at ocs.london@btinternet.com, the email address of a close relative or friend who would be willing to receive the programmes for you. They are a simple Word document and easy to print.

OCS Website

We are actively working on improvements to the website. Please check our website regularly for updates on our programme of lectures and events as email reminders will no longer be sent. All volumes of TOCS from 1-81 are now available for members to view on our website, with a search facility within each volume.

Go to Members Area/TOCS Online. If you don't have the Password necessary to do this, please email Mary Painter at ocs.london@btinternet.com. Please also regularly check on our website under Of Interest to Members/Whats on Outside the OCS for details of interesting lectures, seminars and other events to do with Oriental ceramics.

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SPECIAL OCS EVENTS

**Study Day on Imperial Yellow Porcelain
Friday 6th March at the British Museum
OCS/Percival David Foundation/British Museum event**

Nigel Wood has very kindly agreed to lead a Study Day on Imperial yellow porcelain on March 6th, 2020 at the British Museum, as part of the 10th anniversary celebrations of the PDF coming to the British Museum. There will be a handling session for 15 OCS members in the morning 12:00 to 13:00 then a break for lunch (members' own arrangements) and Nigel will present his lecture from 14:30 to 15:30. The lecture room can seat 50. The venue is the PDC study room off Room 95 and members can sign up to the handling session and the lecture or only the lecture. These two events are for members only and booking is essential. Please email Mary Painter on ocs.london@btinternet.com or telephone 01223 881328 to book places. There is no charge for these events.

**DISCUSSION AND HANDLING SESSION
Saturday 9th May at 11:00 a.m.
Private View and Handling Session at Christie's**

Christie's have again kindly offered OCS members a private view and handling session prior to their Spring sale. This will take place on Saturday 9th May, starting promptly at 11:00 a.m., before the public viewing of the sale items begins at noon. Members will meet at their King Street reception. This is for members only. There is no charge for this event but numbers are limited to 15. If you wish to attend, please contact Mary Painter as soon as possible on ocs.london@btinternet.com or telephone + 44 (0) 1223 881328 to book.

OCS TOURS

**OCS Visit to the West Country
1st – 5th June**

We are pleased to announce a trip to the West Country in the Summer. We aim to visit Somerset, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Bath and Bristol over the course of a week. There will be a mixture of National Trust and private collections, as well as the Bristol Museum & Art Gallery and the Museum of East Asian Art in Bath. Please contact Mary Painter asap on ocs.london@btinternet.com if you are interested in this trip as there is a limit of 20 places. All our tours are only open to members of the OCS.

OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS

The British Library has recently opened the exhibition **Buddhism**, curated by Jana Igunma (Henry Ginsburg Curator of Thai, Lao and Cambodian) and San San May (Curator of Burmese) and scheduled until the 23rd of February. It is a truly wonderful exhibition with a range of striking items, from illuminated manuscripts and palm leaf manuscripts to sutra incised in silver and gold, covering the whole development of Buddhism across Asia and the three main traditions of Buddhism, alongside items related to Buddhist practices, contemporary productions and evocative soundscapes. A beautiful catalogue accompanies the exhibition. A full programme is also available here <https://www.bl.uk/events/buddhism>.

**International Conference 13th–14th March 2020 at Senate House, SOAS University of London
*Visual and Material Cultures of Food and Drink in Pre-Republican China (Colloquy 25)***

SOAS School of Arts and the Food Studies Centre are pleased to announce an international and interdisciplinary conference on visual and material aspects of food history in China. The topics addressed at the conference will range from alcohol in early China, food utensils and containers, representations of poisonous foods, food and drink in tombs, tea and tea houses, as well as soya sauce, peaches and jade as food. The conference is part of the Colloquies series originated by The Percival David Foundation of Chinese Art (PDF) in the 1970s as a venue for the presentation of new research in fields related to East Asian art and archaeology. With generous sponsorship from The Sir Percival David Academic and Research Fund, SOAS are able to present number 25 in the series which coincides with an exhibition on the same topic currently on display in SOAS's Brunei Gallery.

Registration (free) is required. Tickets will be available from the 1st of February on Eventbrite. Venue: Senate House, University of London, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU. For further information on the conference, please contact the conference administrators at colloquy25@gmail.com.

The Oriental Ceramic Society of Hong Kong

The Hong Kong branch of the Oriental Ceramic Society are pleased to announce a series of lectures by Professor Peter Y. K. Lam, introducing the history of Chinese ceramics through archaeological sites in Hong Kong, starting on 7th February, 2020. This unique and informative series aims to introduce members to common terminology, vessel forms as well as to the connoisseurship of ceramics through artefacts excavated in Hong Kong. Conducted in plain language comprehensible to the layman, the series will also appeal to scholars, archaeologists, collectors and lovers of Chinese art.

Prof. Peter Y. K. Lam is Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Before his retirement in 2013 he had been with the Art Museum of the Chinese University for four decades and was its Director for fourteen of those years. For information and to register, please contact ocs@orientalceramics.org.hk.

National Ceramics Museum Princessehof will be hosting an exhibition on shipwreck ceramics: <https://www.princessehof.nl/en/see-and-do/exhibitions/sunken-treasures/>

The Princessehof will present the exhibition *Sunken Treasures* from 7 September 2019 to 28 June 2020. The exhibition features ceramics and other objects found aboard eight shipwrecks dating from the ninth to the nineteenth century. The ceramic treasures tell fascinating stories about the Maritime Silk Road in Asia and reveal a hitherto unknown world of international trade and exchange. Ships from all over the world sailed the Maritime Silk Road for centuries in search of pepper, silk and porcelain. Sometimes the ships that perished lie on the seabed for centuries as time capsules. The wrecks and certainly the well-preserved ceramics provide a treasure trove of information.

Burrell at Kelvingrove: *Collecting Chinese Treasures*. A selection of jades, ceramics and bronzes from the Burrell Collection is on display at the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum in Glasgow from 27th September 2019 until 31 March 2020. The 63 objects have been selected from around 1,800 pieces from China in the Collection. *Collecting Chinese Treasures* is the latest free, temporary exhibition to feature items from the Burrell Collection while the building undergoes a £66 million refurbishment. The Burrell Collection will re-open to the public in Spring 2021. The objects for this exhibition have been chosen by Jorge Welsh, an internationally renowned collector, dealer and expert in Chinese art and Dr. Yupin Chung, curator of Chinese and East Asian Art for Glasgow Museums.

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LECTURES OUTSIDE THE OCS

East Asian Art and Archaeology Research Seminars at the Department of the History of Art & Archaeology, SOAS, University of London. Regular lectures to which all are welcome. For information contact Stacey Pierson on sp17@soas.ac.uk.

International Centre for Chinese Heritage and Archaeology (ICCHA), Institute of Archaeology, University College London holds regular lectures to which the public are warmly invited. Lectures are held at the Archaeology Lecture Theatre (G6), Institute of Archaeology, UCL, 31-34 Gordon Square, London, WC1H 0PY. Tel: 020 7679 1092. <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/iccha>. iccha@ucl.ac.uk.

Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts & Cultures and Centre for Japanese Studies, UEA.

Thursday Lecture Series supported by the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation and the Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Charitable Trust. Admission free, advance booking recommended by phone 01603 597507 or email: sisjac@sainsbury-institute.org. Web site: www.sainsbury-institute.org. Lectures start at 6:00 p.m. Venue: Norwich Cathedral Hostry (Weston Room), Norwich NR1 4EH.

Islamic Art Circle at SOAS

Lectures are regularly held in the Khalili Lecture Theatre (Main School Lecture Theatre), Philips Building, SOAS, University of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG. For info contact Rosalind Wade Haddon on 07714087480 or email to rosalindhaddon@gmail.com.

MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS

THE BRITISH MUSEUM

Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG. Tel: +44 (0)207 323 8181. www.britishmuseum.org
The Sir Joseph Hotung Centre for Ceramic Studies housing the Sir Percival David Collection of Chinese Ceramics; The Sir Joseph Hotung Gallery for China and South Asia (room 33); the Mitsubishi Corporation Japanese Galleries (rooms 92-94); The Korea Foundation Gallery: Arts of Korea; The Selwyn and Ellie Alleyne Gallery: 7000 Years of Chinese Jade from the Collection of Sir Joseph Hotung; The John Addis Islamic Gallery; The Albukhary Foundation Gallery of the Islamic World.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM

Cromwell Road, London SW7 2RL. 0207 942 2000. www.vam.ac.uk
Toshiba Gallery of Japanese Art and Design; T. T. Tsui Gallery of Chinese Art; Korean Gallery; Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art.

Exhibition

Kimono: Kyoto to Catwalk

29 February – 21 June 2020

Gallery 39 and the North Court

Tickets on sale Winter 2019

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/exhibitions/kimono-kyoto-to-catwalk>

The ultimate symbol of Japan, the kimono is often perceived as traditional, timeless and unchanging. *Kimono: Kyoto to Catwalk* will counter this conception, by presenting the garment as a dynamic and constantly evolving icon of fashion. The exhibition will reveal the sartorial, aesthetic and social significance of the kimono from the 1660s to the present day, both in Japan and in the rest of the world.

Displays

Blanc de Chine, a Continuous Conversation

From 5 September 2019 - 10 May 2020

China, the T.T.Tsui Gallery (Room 44); and Ceramics, Room 146

Admission free

This display showcases historic pieces from the V&A's Asian and European ceramics collections, as well as a selection of new works by contemporary makers including: Babs Haenen, Lucille Lewin, Liang Wanying, Jeffry Mitchell, Su Xianzhong, and Peter Ting. Retelling the story of porcelain-making in Dehua, this display will build a bridge between the past and the current, tradition and innovation, and breaking the boundary of Chinese and non-Chinese ceramic practices.

Japanese Cloisonné Enamels: A Suggestion of Endless Patience

From 9 September 2019

Japan, the Toshiba Gallery (Room 45)

Admission free

This display comprises Japanese enamels selected from the gift of 89 objects donated in 2011 by Edwin Davies, CBE (1946 – 2018) and those subsequently acquired through The Edwin Davies Fund. One of the museum's most generous benefactors, Eddie was captivated by the superb craftsmanship of Japanese enamels and encouraged the promotion of this refined art form.

ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM, OXFORD

Beaumont Street, Oxford OX1 2PH. Tel: +44 (0)1865 278000. Fax: +44 (0)1865 278018

eastern.art@ashmus.ox.ac.uk www.ashmolean.org

Open Tue. – Sun. and Bank Holidays, 10.00 – 6.00. Closed 24th -26th December and 1st January.

All events can be booked online: www.ashmolean.org/tickets

Exhibition

Cai Guo-Qiang: Gunpowder Art

25 Oct 2019 – 19 April 2020, Gallery 11

Chinese artist Cai Guo-Qiang (b. 1957) is best-known for his gunpowder explosion events staged in public spaces worldwide and, in particular, for his firework display for the opening ceremonies of the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing. This exhibition focuses on the artist's smaller-scale works, exploring the presence of Chinese culture in his art through the mediums of painting, drawing, and gunpowder on canvas, paper and silk. Learn about the significance behind the materials Cai Guo-Qiang chooses to work with, as well as the ways he adapts them to explore his own central themes of creation, destruction and chance.

<https://ashmolean.web.ox.ac.uk/event/cai-guo-qiang-gunpowder-art>

Exhibition Tour

Cai Guo-Qiang: Curator's Tour

Free, no booking required.

THE ORIENTAL MUSEUM at Durham University is the only museum in the north of the UK dedicated to the art and archaeology of the Orient. The collections cover the cultures of China, Japan, Korea, India, the near and Middle East, and North Africa. In 2008, the Chinese and Ancient Egyptian collections were awarded 'Designated Status' in recognition of their national and international importance. The Museum is part of Durham University and is situated on Elvet Hill, Durham. The Oriental Museum is open from 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday and noon to 5pm at weekends and on bank holidays. For more details visit www.durham.ac.uk/oriental.museum or telephone 0191 334 5694.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JF. Tel: 0131 247 4026. www.nms.ac.uk.

The National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh opened its new permanent gallery for East Asia on 8th February 2019. The museum has one of the most significant East Asia collections in the United

Kingdom, representing the three major cultures: China, Japan and Korea. The *Exploring East Asia* gallery presents a unique perspective on the region, enabling visitors to explore and contrast the diverse traditions, peoples and histories of these three fascinating and dynamic cultures. It is one of three new galleries, the others dedicated to Ancient Egypt and to the Art of Ceramics, which mark the final part a 15-year journey, restoring one of the UK's finest Victorian buildings, revealing remarkable treasures and creating inspiring learning experiences to engage more visitors.

THE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM, CAMBRIDGE

Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RB. Tel: 01223 332900. www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk. Closed Mondays. The Oriental Gallery of Chinese and Japanese Art and the Gompertz Gallery of Korean Art.

THE MUSEUM OF EAST ASIAN ART, BATH

12 Bennett Street Bath, BA1 2QJ: Tel. 01225 464640. Email info@meaa.org.uk or go to <http://www.meaa.org.uk/whats-on>.

BRISTOL MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1RL, Tel: 0117 922 3571
www.bristolmuseums.org.uk

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SPRING FAIRS 2020

The TEFAF Maastricht 2020 Art & Antiques Fair will run from 7th - 15th March, 2020 at the Maastricht Exhibition & Congress Centre, Forum 100, 6229 GV Maastricht, The Netherlands. Info@tefaf.com. www.tefaf.com.

Asia Week New York 2020 runs March 12th - 19th

Asia Week New York 2020 is a celebration of Asian art featuring exhibitions, auctions and special events focused on Chinese, Indian, Japanese, Korean, Himalayan and Southeast Asian art. Events will be held across New York by 45 leading international Asian art specialists, five auction houses, and 19 museums and cultural institutions. Go to www.asiaweekny.com.

The British Antique Dealers' Association (BADA) Antiques & Fine Art Fair will run from 18th – 24th March 2020 at the Duke of York Square, Chelsea, London, SW3 4LY. Go to www.bada-antiques-fair.co.uk or [email enquiries@badafair.com](mailto:email_enquiries@badafair.com). Tel +44 (0) 20 7589 6108.

The Antiques Dealers Fair Limited is holding various fine art and antiques fairs in 2020. Tickets and enquiries: +44 (0)1797 252030. www.adfl.co.uk.

Penman Fairs are pleased to send OCS members **complimentary tickets** to their antiques fairs. Go to www.penman-fairs.co.uk, email info@penman-fairs.co.uk or telephone +44 (0) 1886 833091.