



PRESS RELEASE

from

THE FRICK COLLECTION

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FRICK TO HOST SYMPOSIUM IN CONJUNCTION WITH ASIA WEEK 2012

The Dragon and the Chrysanthemum: Collecting Chinese and Japanese Art in America

Thursday and Friday, March 15 & 16, 2012

Center for the History of Collecting,
The Frick Collection and Art Reference Library
Event entrance: 1 East 70th Street, New York, NY 10021



James McNeill Whistler, *Caprice in Purple and Gold: The Golden Screen*, 1864, oil on wood panel, Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.: Gift of Charles Lang Freer, F1904.75a

The Frick Collection is pleased to announce that immediately prior to the start of Asia Week in New York, it will host a two-day symposium on collecting Chinese and Japanese art in America. This special event on March 15 and 16 will provide historical framework for the long-standing interest Americans have had and continue to have in Asian art. Topics to be discussed range from the China Trade during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries; missionary collectors such as John Ferguson; Gilded-Age collectors from Boston and their passion for Chinese and Japanese art; distinguished collectors such as Laurence Sickman, who collected specifically for museums; dealers such as C. T. Loo; John D. Rockefeller III's collecting and his relationship with his advisor Sherman Lee; and, finally, the shifting trends of collecting Chinese and Japanese art after World War II. **The symposium is made possible through the generous support of the Japanese Art Dealers Association.**

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The keynote speaker of *The Dragon and the Chrysanthemum: Collecting Chinese and Japanese Art in America* will be Maxwell Hearn, Douglas Dillon Curator in Charge of the Department of Asian Art The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Other speakers will include William Sargent, Independent Curator, former curator of Asian export art Peabody Essex Museum; Stanley Abe, Associate Professor, Department of Art, Art History & Visual Studies, and Director, Program in the Arts of the Moving Image, Duke University; Christine Guth, Head, Asian Design Specialism, Royal College of Art, and Victoria and Albert Museum History of Design Programme; Daisy Yiyou Wang, Chinese Art Project Specialist, Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution; Louise Cort, Curator for Ceramics, Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution; Lara Netting, J. Clawson Mills Fellow, Department of Asian Art at The Metropolitan Museum of Art; Jason Steuber, Cofrin Curator of Asian Art, Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida; Adriana Proser, John H. Foster Curator of Traditional Asian Art, Asia Society Museum; and Warren Cohen, University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History, Michigan State University and University of Maryland Baltimore County, and Senior Scholar, Asia Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. The symposium concludes with a conversation with a major collector of Chinese contemporary art.

Tickets for both days of the symposium are \$40 (\$30 for Members); single day tickets are \$25 (\$20 for Members). Tickets will be available for purchase beginning February 10, 2012, online (centerprograms@frick.org) and by phone.

For more information, please call 212.547.6894 or consult the Center's Symposium pages here: <http://www.frick.org/center/symposia.htm>

The Center's general pages can be found here: <http://www.frick.org/center/index.htm>

COMPLETE SCHEDULE FOR THE MARCH 2012 SYMPOSIUM

THURSDAY

3:30 WELCOME

Ian Wardropper, Director, The Frick Collection and **Inge Reist**, Director, Center for the History of Collecting, Frick Art Reference Library

3:45 Keynote Address

East Asia and the Encyclopedic Art Museum: Chinese and Japanese Art at the Metropolitan Museum

Maxwell K. Hearn, Douglas Dillon Curator in Charge of the Department of Asian Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

4:30 BREAK

4:50 *Envisioning Cathay: Asian Export Arts in Early America*

William R. Sargent, Independent Curator, former curator of Asian export art, Peabody Essex Museum, Salem

5:20 *"All of the Best Collections of Individuals in China": John Ferguson's First Foray into the Chinese Painting Market in 1912-13*

Lara Netting, J. Clawson Mills Fellow, Department of Asian Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

5:50 “*Fine autumnal tones*”: *Charles Lang Freer’s Collecting of Asian Ceramics*

Louise Allison Cort, Curator for Ceramics, Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

FRIDAY

10:15 WELCOME

Inge Reist, Director, Center for the History of Collecting, Frick Art Reference Library

10:30 *The Golden Age of East Asian Art Collecting--and After*

Warren I. Cohen, University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History, Michigan State, University and University of Maryland Baltimore County, and Senior Scholar, Asia Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington, D.C.

11:00 *Sculpture in the Golden Age of East Asian Art Collecting*

Stanley Abe, Associate Professor, Department of Art, Art History & Visual Studies, and Director, Program in the Arts of the Moving Image, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

11:30 BREAK

11:50 *Mammon and the Muse: International Art Dealers and Charles L. Freer’s Chinese Collection*

Daisy Yiyou Wang, Chinese Art Project Specialist, Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

12:20 LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

2:00 WELCOME BACK

Inge Reist, Director, Center for the History of Collecting, Frick Art Reference Library

2:10 *Laurence Sickman: Pioneer and Connoisseur of Chinese Art*

Jason Steuber, Cofrin Curator of Asian Art, Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida, Gainesville

2:40 *Foundations of an East Asian Canon in Post-war America: Sherman Lee, John D. Rockefeller 3rd, and Japan, 1946-1953*

Adriana Proser, John H. Foster Curator of Traditional Asian Art, Asia Society Museum, New York

3:10 *Collecting Japanese Prints in America: A Taste for Democracy?*

Christine Guth, Head, Asian Design Specialism, Royal College of Art, and Victoria and Albert Museum History of Design Programme, London

3:40 BREAK

4:00 *Collecting Contemporary Chinese Art, a Conversation*

Jane DeBevoise, Chair, Asia Art Archive, New York and Hong Kong, and **Uli Sigg**, collector of contemporary Chinese art, Lucerne, Switzerland

4:25 Reception

ABOUT THE CENTER FOR THE HISTORY OF COLLECTING

In 2007 The Frick Collection established the Center for the History of Collecting at the Frick Art Reference Library. In founding the Center, the Frick wished to stimulate the study of the formation of collections of fine and decorative arts, both public and private, in the United States from Colonial times to the present.

The Center plays an active role in this growing field of art-historical inquiry that merits greater attention in academic curricula and scholarly publications than it has yet received. The Center brings together scholars already working in this area of research, as it fosters the exchange of views on collecting among researchers engaged in the many facets of cultural history. A growing number of recent museum exhibitions have emphasized the motivations of collectors, their relationships to art dealers, and the historical record of the formation of great art collections.

To serve this community of scholars, the Center hosts symposia and colloquia and creates the tools needed for access to primary documents generated by art collectors and dealers. The Frick Art Reference Library's bibliographic and photographic resources, archives, technological and human resources, name recognition, and location in New York City all combine to provide an unparalleled foundation for scholarly research into the history of collecting in the United States.

BASIC INFORMATION

General Information Phone (Collection): 212.288.0700

General Information Phone (Library): 212.288.8700

Web site: www.frick.org

E-mail: info@frick.org

Where (Collection): 1 East 70th Street, near Fifth Avenue.

Where (Library): 10 East 71st Street, between Fifth and Madison Avenues (EVENT ENTRANCE, 1 EAST 70th)

Hours (Collection) open six days a week: 10am to 6pm on Tuesdays through Saturdays; 11am to 5pm on Sundays. Closed Mondays, New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. Limited hours (11am to 5pm) on Lincoln's Birthday, Election Day, and Veterans Day.

Hours (Library): 10:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday, and 9:30am to 1:00pm Saturdays. Closed Sundays, Holiday weekends, Saturdays in June and July, the month of August.

Admission (Collection): \$18; senior citizens \$15; students \$10; "pay as you wish" on Sundays from 11am to 1pm.

Admission (Library): use of the Library is free; symposium ticket pricing is listed above in the body of the release

PLEASE NOTE TO YOUR READERS: Children under ten are not admitted to the Collection.

Subway: #6 local (on Lexington Avenue) to 68th Street station; **Bus:** M1, M2, M3, and M4 southbound on Fifth Avenue to 72nd Street and northbound on Madison Avenue to 70th Street; crosstown M72 stopping eastbound on Madison at 70th Street or westbound on Fifth Avenue at 72nd Street or 69th Street

Collection Tour Information: included in the price of admission is an Acoustiguide Audio Tour of the permanent collection, provided by Acoustiguide. The tour is offered in six languages: English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish.

Museum Shop: the shop is open the same days as the Museum, closing fifteen minutes before the institution.

Group Visits to the Collection: Please call 212.288.0700 for details and to make reservations.

Public Programs: A calendar of events is published regularly and is available upon request.

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For further press information, please contact the Media Relations & Marketing Office

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