



ASIAN ART COUNCIL

Portland Art Museum

October 2015 NEWSLETTER

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Traveling with AAC

Dear AAC Members,

This weekend, a group of AAC members will be heading to Seattle to visit several dealers and view some outstanding private collections of Chinese and Japanese art. It looks like we'll



have good weather for the long drive in both directions, and I am eagerly looking forward the trip.

2016 will be an especially rich year for major Asian art exhibitions across the country. After considering several possibilities, we have decided to make Los Angeles our destination next May. The key exhibition will be ***Cave Temples of Dunhuang*** at the Getty Museum, but there will be much, much more to see. We hope you can join us! See the article at the end of this Newsletter for more information.

Maribeth Graybill

The Arlene and Harold Schnitzer Curator of Asian Art

Tragedy, Romance, Heroism: Teaching and Producing Kabuki's Iconic Revenge Play--Chûshingura

Laurence Kominz,
Professor of Japanese, Portland State University

Hospitality

Ré Craig

Special Events

Judy McCuddy

Historian

Elaine Molskness

Book Club Coordinator

Sylvia Lurie

Ex-Officio Members

The Arlene and Harold Schnitzer Curator of Asian Art

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Museum Council

Coordinator

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Council Event

Reservation Line

(503) 276-4267 #1

Quick Links

[Portland Art Museum](#)

[AAC Page of PAM website](#)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are seeking volunteers to work on the **AAC Hospitality Committee** for the 2015-16 year. Ideally, we'd like to find 4 to 6 people who can take turns serving as greeters and arranging

**Monday, November 2, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the
Fields Ballroom, Mark Building**



A faculty member at Portland State for more than twenty years, Professor Kominz not only teaches Japanese language and literature, but also regularly directs student productions of kyōgen and kabuki, two classical forms of Japanese drama. This coming year, supported by a major grant from the US-Japan Foundation of New York, as well as local sponsors, Professor Kominz will be directing a production of *Chūshingura*, or *The Revenge of the 47 Loyal Samurai*.

Based on a tragic historical incident that took place in 1701, the play dramatizes the forced suicide of a daimyō and the subsequent path of his followers toward revenge. A perennial favorite on the kabuki stage, the play presents the dramatic twists and turns of the secret revenge quest, and explores the gamut of emotions of its characters, from arrogance and venal greed to humility and loyal self-sacrifice.

Performances of the play will take place from February 25 through March 6, 2016, and we plan to have a block of tickets for AAC members for the Sunday, February 28 matinee.

On November 2nd, come hear Professor Kominz talk about the challenges and excitement of bringing this masterpiece to Portland--in English.

This lecture will be open to the public without charge. Please

for refreshments at our events. Many hands can make for light work!

If interested, please contact Alicia Fecker, Vice President and Program Chair, at afecker@pps.net.

Keep this Phone Number Handy!
Council Reservation Line
(503) 276-4267 #1

Help the AAC Grow!

By clicking on the link at the very bottom of this email (where it says "forward this email"), you can share our newsletter with someone you know who may want to become involved in the Asian Art Council!

reserve your seats by calling the AAC reservation line, 503-276-4267 #1, and telling us how many will attend. Note the late start time and that there will be no reception for this lecture.

For more information on related programs at PSU, see the PSU Center for Japanese Studies Newsletter [Click Here](#)

How to Read Chinese Landscape Paintings



Maribeth Graybill,
The Arlene and Harold Schnitzer
Curator of Asian Art
Monday, November 9, 2015 at 9:30
a.m. in the Whitsell Auditorium

With the long-anticipated opening of *Seeing Nature*, the Museum's main stage exhibition for the fall, landscape painting is once again the focus of attention. In China, landscape painting became a major form of artistic expression in the tenth century, some seven centuries (!) before it emerged in Europe. This lecture will explore how nature is 'seen' in a broad chronological sweep of Chinese art from the Han through Qing dynasties, and trace evolving meanings associated with landscape imagery.

This lecture is part of the Museum Docent Education program, but AAC members are most welcome. In order to enter the Museum before 10 a.m., please come to the Loading Dock Door, just to the left of the Hoffman entrance.

Book Club News

Book Club meets the second Wednesday of the month in the West Conference Room, Mark Building 2F, at 11:45 a.m.

November 11

William Dalrymple, *White Mughals: Love and Betrayal in Eighteenth-century India*

See the review at

<http://www.theguardian.com/education/2002/oct/05/highereducation.books1>

December: no meeting

For more information on titles, contact Book Group coordinator Sylvia Lurie at shlurie@spiritone.com

**Vault Tour, Gallery Talk,
and Japanese Dinner for
AAC Contributor and Advocate Members
Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. in the Haber
Study Room, Museum Lower Level**

As a way to reward those who make especially generous contributions of funds or their time to the Asian Art Council, either through membership at the Contributor (\$200/year) or Advocate level (\$500/year), or by serving on the Board, Curator Maribeth Graybill and Registrar Heather Bouchey will be conducting tours of the Museum's Vault on Tuesday afternoon, November 17th, to be followed by a special dinner at Chef Naoko's.

Between 3:30 and 4:30 pm, participants will be divided into small groups to tour the vault, and while waiting, others will get to view recent acquisitions of Japanese prints in the Haber Study Room. There will be a brief tour of recent gallery rotations at 4:30 p.m. Finally, for up to 20 persons who are interested, we will walk over to Chef Naoko's, a nearby Japanese restaurant, for an early dinner.

Because of limitations of space, this event is ONLY for AAC Contributors, Advocates, or Board Members and their spouses; please do not ask to bring friends along.

**NOW is the time to upgrade your membership,
before Contributor level dues rise to \$250 on
November 1, 2015.**

If you would like to upgrade your AAC membership, you can do so [online](#). Your \$200 or \$500 contribution will extend your

membership for a full year from its present expiration date, but we will consider you a Contributor or an Advocate immediately.

To reserve your place for this special event, call the AAC reservation line, 503-276-4267 #1. Please state your name slowly and clearly and say 1) who will be attending the vault tour; and 2) who will be coming to dinner at Chef Naoko's.

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: Thursday,
October 22nd**

Annual Holiday Party: Celebrating Netsuke

Tuesday, December 15, 2015 from 5:30 p.m.

This year's annual holiday party will take place in the Museum, to allow us to celebrate the special exhibition ***A Netsuke Menagerie***, which will open in the Brantley Gallery on November 7th.

The schedule for the evening will include a reception with light refreshments in the Warren Foyer and viewing the exhibition; dinner in the Fields Ballroom; and an illustrated lecture by noted netsuke expert Hollis Goodall, Curator of Japanese Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Watch your mail for an invitation to the Holiday Party in early November.

COMING UP IN 2016:

Collecting as Stewardship: My Japanese Hanga

Irwin Lavenberg

Wednesday, January 27, 2016

Portland Fine Print Fair 2016

Saturday, January 30 and Sunday, February 1, 2016

Artists' Homage to the 47 Rōnin: Chūshingura in Prints

Maribeth Graybill

Thursday, Feb 4, 2016 at Portland State University

The Architecture of Kengo Kuma: A Round-Table Discussion

Co-sponsored by the Portland Japanese Garden

Saturday, February 6, 2016

AAC Goes to the Theater: The Revenge of the 47 Samurai

Sunday, Feb 28, 2-5 pm, Lincoln Hall, Portland State University, followed by a no-host dinner

AAC TRAVEL TO LOS ANGELES MAY 2016

May (dates TBD): We are working on plans for a fun trip to Los Angeles in May to see the spectacular exhibition, ***Cave Temples of Dunhuang*** at the Getty Museum. Other destinations will include the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; The Pacific-Asia Museum, The Norton Simon Museum, and The Huntington Gardens. Watch this space for an itinerary with costs, to come in November. For more information on the lead exhibition, click [here](#).