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With a Bounty of Treasures from the East, Asia Week New York Returns for Its Annual Round of Exhibitions and Auctions

New York: With its spectacular trove of Asian works of art—both ancient and contemporary—spanning the Far East and South Asia—the 12th annual Asia Week New York continues to delight collectors and connoisseurs of all persuasions. Opening on March 11th through March 20th, the 29 international galleries will present their exhibitions virtually and by-appointment, with six auction houses—Bonhams, Christie's, Doyle, Heritage, iGavel, and Sotheby's mounting their respective sales.

Says Asia Week New York chairman Katherine Martin: "We are very pleased to have a significant number of participants this year. Up until the pandemic, Asia Week New York focused our energies on the March event, and we also supported our exhibitors who participated in the smaller September Asia Week schedule. However, the 'new normal' prompted us to consider a new direction, so we decided to extend membership to dealers, auction houses and museums on an annual basis, which allows us to provide additional and sustained outreach through our website and social media platforms as well as a program of virtual panel discussions throughout the year."

Asia Week New York exhibitions are open by-appointment and free to the public, and each reveals the rarest and finest examples of Asian ceramics, paintings, prints, textiles, sculpture, jewelry, bronzes, representing artistry, ingenuity and imagination from every time period and corner of Asia.

Organized by category, here is a round-up of the highlights at the galleries:

Ancient and/or Contemporary Indian, Himalayan, and Southeast Asian Art



Among the offerings at **Art Passages** is *A Bird and Blossoms*, a Safavid period tile, circa 17th century. Richly illustrated with a scene depicting a multi-colored bird in flight approaching a blossoming branch and a cypress tree, this was part of a larger composition inspired by the natural world and used to decorate the walls of palaces and houses of the nobles in Isfahan, an Iranian city known for its Perso–Islamic architecture, grand boulevards, covered bridges, palaces, tiled mosques, and minarets. *Online only*

Prahlad Bubbar will present a series of outstanding works from the Persian, Indian and Himalayan worlds, connected to the theme of his exhibition, *The Abundance of Nature*, which reflects the innate generosity and regenerative power of nature, a quiet observer in all these works. Among the highlights are ten illustrated leaves from the epic Persian poem Shahnameh. Within each page, the vivid chromatic variations and refined details are testament to the masterful skill of Persian (Shiraz) artists working in Northern India and in the Deccan in the middle of the 16th century. In *Rostam Kills the*



White Demon, a man and beast battle for supremacy in a darkened grotto, framed by vivid pink rock formations while various fantastical beings observe the proceedings. Online only



Among the notable Indian paintings at **Oliver Forge and Brendan Lynch Ltd**, is *Rustam before Kai Kavus having knocked down Tus*, Folio from a Shahnama, circa 1610, a rare survivor from the court of Ibrahim Adil Shah II (1571 – 1627), the fifth sultan of Bijapur, who was a great patron of music and painting. The extraordinary quality of the paper used is incredibly thin, refined and burnished and is in near impeccable condition. The lavish use of gold leaf is one of the hallmarks of painting in the Deccan and gives us a glimpse into the confident opulence of the world of the Bijapur court under the Adil Shai sultans. *Online only*

This rare and exquisite 17th century gilt copper and blue champlevé enamel container or *pandan*, Mughal, from North India–featured at **Francesca Galloway**—was intended for the storage of betel nut and belongs to a group of four gilt copper enameled *pandans* to survive from this period. Only the most skilled craftsmen with substantial knowledge of the highly complex firing processes, were able to produce enameled objects. Two of the *pandans* from this group are now in the Victoria and Albert Museum and in the Jagdish and Kamala Mittal Museum and the third is now available at Francesca Galloway. *Online only*





Uma (Parvati) stands guard at **Kapoor Galleries**. This striking 11th-12th century Chola bronze deity from Tamil Nadu, is representative of the most important of South Indian Hindu temple images; it is part of a '*Somaskanda'* image which describes the divine family constituted by Shiva, Parvati and Skanda. The present figure of Parvati, or 'Uma' in the native language of Tamil Nadu, seated in the posture of royal ease, belonged to a group of three portable bronze images essential to worship within each South Indian temple. The bronze figure is also processional, as

indicated by the holes fit for poles enabling worshippers to carry the divine figures into the streets for all to experience *darshan*. 34 East 67th Street, for gallery hours, phone 212-794-2300

Thomas Murray presents an early 19th/early 20th century Nuo Mask of a Wise Leader, from southwest China. Rooted in a shamanic/animistic tradition dating back thousands of years and preserved in remote mountains by the tribal minorities of Southwest China, the dramas feature heroic battles between the forces of good and evil and serve as a means to drive out devils and malevolent ghosts. This mask is thought to capture the character of a wise but strong leader; it comes from an old French collection and is one of the finest known. *Online only*





At **Susan Ollemans'** exhibition, *Recent Acquisitions of Asian Jewelry 8-19th century*, a spectacular 19th century gold pectoral from Sumba, Indonesia stands out among her stunning collection of jewelry and adornments. Made from a single rod of gold, it was hammered out into two triangular flanges. This piece would have been part of a nobleman's treasury and exposed to daylight only for ritual purposes and under the guidance of a priest. *Online only*

Route Map of Experience, by Jayashree Chakravarty at **Akar Prakar** is a monumental work in two parts, one measuring 10.5 ½ x 41' and the other 10.5' x 14.5'. Chakravarty creates immersive painted installations, comprising great, supple, and shape-shifting walls of rice paper, tissues, fabric and brown paper. In them, she arrests fleeting moments from the flux of experience. This is space where she can hold conversations with her inner self.



As the eyes get used to this monumental twilight landscape, the details begin to reveal themselves. It's as if some natural formations were playing with your vision in the semi-darkness and creating fantastic images in your mind's eye. *Online only*



Made as a unique commission for a person of importance and taste, this 17th century *Khatamkari* dagger from the Ottoman Empire is one of the rarities on view at **Runjeet Singh**. The carved wooden handle and case is inlaid with gold, mother of pearl, ebony and ivory. *Khatamkari* refers to a technique that originated in Persia, most probably Shiraz and Isfahan, and travelled throughout the Middle East and India. *Online only*

Ancient and/or Contemporary Chinese Art

Spring 2021 Exhibition of Chinese Porcelains and Works of Art, at **Ralph M. Chait Galleries,** will feature a magnificent Chinese green porcelain bowl with the Imperial mark—a very rare type and usually dated toward the beginning of the Kangxi reign. The decorative motif of eight sacred horses leaping over waves strewn with precious



things originates from the early Ming dynasty. The vibrant colors combined with this classic decoration was a bold artistic expression of the Kangxi period in the pages of Chinese history. *16 East 52nd Street, 10th floor, for gallery hours, phone 212-397-2818*



A pair of early 18th century *hongmu* square stools, from the Qing dynasty, Kangxi period, is among the offerings at **Nicholas Grindley LLC.** What is particularly interesting about these stools, especially when they survive in pairs, is their scale. They are rarely 22 inches square, making them not only particularly useful as end tables in a domestic setting, but also strong enough to stand on their own in a

museum installation. Online only

One of the paintings on view at **Ink Studio New York**, is *Almost Full Moon*, by Peng Kanglong, a literati-recluse artist who paints in the traditional landscape and flower genres and is considered the singular artist of modern times. His major stylistic influences include the 17th century Monk artists Shitao and Kuncan, as well as the Modern landscape master Huang Binghong. In classical



Chinese painting there are three major subjects—the figure (including portraiture), landscape, and plants and flowers. In this last category, the singular artist of our time is Peng Kanglong. *Online only*



Among European admirers of Asian art was the incomparable Swiss artist Alberto Giacometti (1901-1966). While conversant with Chinese painting, Giacometti might not have known that his signature cast-bronze sculptures with surfaces appearing rough, crusty, and eroded, the human and animal forms attenuated, their limbs stretched thin and spindly, had predecessors in the ancient art of China. From the standpoint of Asian art specialists, the oxen featured in *Earthly Agendas* at **Kaikodo LLC**— are

clear examples of a Han period regional artistic norm. Presently they serve as appropriate symbols of this lunar year, advancing under the spell of the metal ox. *Online only*

A veritable "Treasure Box" of ancient objects deserves attention in *Ceramics and Works of Art from China, Japan and Korea*, the exhibition at **Zetterquist Galleries**. Housed in this magnificent 18th century scholar's objects box are relics dating from the Shang to Ming Dynasties. With a lid and two doors, it is constructed of *huanghuali* with recessed white copper hardware, and each tray and drawer has been custom-



fitted for 13 ancient gilt and silvered bronze, stone and porcelain objects. In the left drawer sits a rare revolving porcelain stem-cup with Qingbai glaze from the Yuan Dynasty, a 12th -13th century Cambodian bronze necklace is in the top drawer and a Tang Dynasty gilt and silvered lotus-shaped chariot hubcap beckons from the bottom drawer. *3 East 66th Street 2B*, by appointment

Ancient and/or Contemporary Japanese Art



In the foothills of the mountains, Atagoyama 1932; Fall and Summer is one of several woodblock prints on view at **The Art of Japan**. This print depicts Fall and Summer views of Mt. Fuji. Merely by altering pigments, baren techniques and adding a block to create the effect of rain, the publisher and artist worked together to create two completely different moods using essentially the same blocks and the same subject. Although these designs were published in an

edition of 200, they have become scarce, and because of the large format, they are difficult to find in fine condition. *Online only*

Chambers Fine Art, which specializes in Asian contemporary works of art, turns its attention to a young Japanese artist for its return to Asia Week New York. In *Egami Etsu: Facebook* a single artist show debuts the work of Egami Etsu, the 26-year old Japanese artist, who is in New York on an artist residency program sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Cultural Affairs. 55 East 11th Street, by appointment only





Dai Ichi Arts, Ltd., will present *Erosion*, a ceramic work by Shingu Sayaka, a young emerging ceramist, in the exhibition, *The Passage of Time*. Internationally recognized for her ceramic flower series, her work represents transience, fleetingness and immortality. *18 East 64th Street, by appointment*

Egenolf Gallery Japanese Prints is presenting *Chiura Obata (1885-1975):*Woodblock Prints and Paintings. One of the highlights in this single artist exhibition is Evening Glow at Mono Lake, from Mono Mills (1930), one of the finest designs from the "World Landscape Series: America", the ground-breaking effort which represents the apogee of woodblock printing in the 20th century. Obata collaborated with the Japanese publisher Takamizawa, who employed more than 32 carvers and 40 printers for eighteen months for this project. Each of the finished prints in the series required between 120 and 205 separate hand printings, and some required 15 to 20 blocks just to replicate a single brushstroke. Although a professor at Berkeley, in 1942 Obata and his family were incarcerated at the Topaz internment camp, where he then opened an art school for fellow internees. His colleagues at Berkeley were

able to preserve many of his artworks; he returned to teaching there in 1945. Online only



Toto ryogoku yusen no zu (View of pleasure boats at Ryogoku, the Eastern capital), a polychrome triptych woodcut by Utagawa Hiroshige, is one of the woodblock prints available at **Hara Shobo**. It's a traditional scene depicting pleasure boats on the Sumida River with people gathering to celebrate beginning of summer and view fireworks from the Ryogoku Bridge; on the

riverbank of the Sumida River. Online only

Utagawa Kunisada (1786-1865): His World Revisited is the single artist exhibition at Sebastian Izzard LLC Asian Art, which showcases A Tipsy Courtesan from Fukagawa, from the series: Three Fashionable Tipplers, signed Gototei Kunisada. This very lively and expressive woodblock print portrays a hard-drinking Fukagawa geisha drinking wine from a crystal goblet with a cup of sake ready in the other. She can indulge in alcohol for seven days and nights without ill effect, and once drank a total of one hundred



shots and one hundred "bull's eyes" in five days, earning her the title of itagashira, given the highest-ranking women in the local argot. 17 East 76th Street, 3rd Floor, by appointment

Master of an enormous range of glazes, Kitaoji Rosanjin (1883-1959) produced superb functional vessels and tableware in stoneware and porcelain that were initially created for his celebrated and exclusive eating club in Tokyo. Today, globally, Rosanjin, whose work will be on view in the exhibition–*Tradition* Redefined: Rosanjin and His Rivals-at Joan B Mirviss LTD., is the bestknown Japanese ceramist of the twentieth century. This powerful vessel of 1955 flaunts Rosanjin's genius for imbuing a classical form with a striking sense of modernity— in terms of form, with the thick rising neck, texture, with the irregular rippling combed lines and surface patterning, with the flung splashes of mottled glaze. 39 East 78th Street, 4th floor, by appointment





At her namesake gallery, first-time participant, Miyako Yoshinaga, presents a solo exhibition by Tokyo-based Manika Nagare (b. 1979). Manika Nagare's abstract color paintings, such as Through a Faraway Eye, are inspired by awe-inducing natural phenomena and nature's boundless vistas. Through these works created

during the pandemic, Nagare has sought to express her emotional response to losing loved ones. All elements of her work, such as layers of unmixed colors, lines suggesting mountain ridges, contours of plants, and smooth rhythms like flowing water coexist organically as in nature itself. 24 East 64th Street, for gallery hours, phone 212-268-7132

One of the most recent works that Ōsumi Yukie has produced, Araiso, or 'Rough Shore' on view at **Onishi Gallery** references the artist's signature motif: the ceaseless movement of nature. Ōsumi employs a centuries-old technique known as nunomezōgan, or 'textile imprint inlay' in which the surface of the object is incised with a fine chisel, then inlaid with gold and lead. 521 West 26th Street, by appointment





One of the highlights in On the Vanguard: Meiji Period Woodblock Prints, the exhibition at Scholten Japanese Art is Tsukioka Yoshitoshi's masterpiece triptych, Fujiwara Yasumasa Plays the Flute by Moonlight, ca. 1883, easily the artist's most famous work and one of the most memorable designs from the entire genre of Japanese woodblock prints. It illustrates a

dramatic kabuki scene with the famous court musician, Fujiwara Yasumasa (958-1036), playing

his flute while passing under a moonlit sky dramatically streaked with dark clouds. 'The Flute Player'- as he is known, is apparently unaware that his outlaw brother, Kidomaru, is creeping up behind him with the intention of robbing him of his robes but is instead mesmerized by the Yasumasa's music and leaves his brother unharmed. 145 West 58th Street, Suite 6D, by appointment

This *Fallen Pine Needles* basket, made from *madake*, bamboo and rattan, is one of the intricately woven bamboo baskets featured at **TAI Modern.** Creating complex details and a beautiful sense of depth, artist Monden Yuichi employs a technique he inherited from his father by using long, thin strips of bamboo intertwined in seemingly random layers. To help achieve the tightness of the weave in this piece, Yuichi used a tool he fashioned from the rib of a discarded umbrella. *Online only*





Thomsen Gallery will feature a solo exhibition featuring 10 new works by the Kyoto lacquer artist Yoshio Okada (b. 1977). These lacquer boxes feature astronomical themes including *Jellyfish*, which imagines the reflection of the moon as a sea creature flowing in the ocean. 9 East 63rd Street 2nd floor, by appointment

Gozu Tennō a menacing Buddhist deity with hair rising up like flames and two bull horns emerging from its head, stands guard at **Hiroshi Yanagi Oriental Art**. In Japan, Gozu Tennō, known as "Ox Head Heavenly King," was thought to quell epidemics and has been worshipped since the Heian period. The sculpture is exceedingly unusual as it lacks the bull's head that is commonly perched atop the deity's human head. *Online only*





Kokon Biannual: Spring 2021 at Koichi Yanagi Oriental Fine Arts, will present an appropriately titled Landscape, an ink-on-paper hanging scroll, by Kano Motonobu (1476-1559) from the Muromachi-Momoyama period, 15th-16th century. This beautiful landscape painting is a recent and exciting discovery. Motonobu was a talented and politically savvy painter who played an essential role in the success of the Kano school of painters. 17 East 71st Street #4, by appointment

Ancient and Contemporary Korean Art

This elegant, yet simple, late 19th century inkstone case, or *Yeonsang*, at **HK Art & Antiques LLC**, is a superb example of the wood furniture used in a Sarangbang or scholar's study. In the Joseon Dynasty, the study was a multifunctional room in the men's quarters of an upper-class home. Made of persimmon wood, this inkstone case was used to store important scholar's objects: inkstone, ink stick, brush, and paper, known collectively as the Four Friends. *49 East 78th Street, by appointment only*



About Asia Week New York

The collaboration of top-tier international Asian art galleries, the major auction houses-Bonhams, Christie's, Heritage Auctions, iGavel, and Sotheby's-and numerous museums and Asian cultural institutions, Asia Week New York is a week-long celebration filled with simultaneous gallery open houses, Asian art auctions as well as numerous museum exhibitions, lectures, and special events. Participants from the United States and countries abroad unveil an extraordinary selection of museum-quality treasures from China, India, the Himalayas, Southeast Asia, Tibet, Nepal, Japan, and Korea.

Asia Week New York Association, Inc. is a 501(c)(6) non-profit trade membership organization registered with the state of New York. For more information visit www.AsiaWeekNewYork.com @asiaweekny #asiaweekny

About Songtsam, Presenting Sponsor

Continuing as Presenting Sponsor for Asia Week New York is Songtsam Hotels, Resorts & Tours, an award-winning luxury boutique hotel group with twelve properties (four Linka resort hotels and eight lodges) located in the Chinese provinces of Tibet and Yunnan. Founded by Baima Duoji, in 2000, the hotel group is the only collection of luxury Tibetan-style retreats found across the Tibetan Plateau that strives to preserve and share the cultures and spirituality of its locale, all the while offering guests sophisticated elegance, refined design, modern amenities, and unobtrusive service in places of natural beauty and cultural interest.

For information, visit: www.songtsam.com/en

Editors Notes

Dates: March 11-20

29 Galleries, 6 Auction Houses

For gallery hours and auction schedules visit: www.asiaweekny.com

Image Captions:

Ancient and/or Contemporary Indian, Himalayan, and Southeast Asian Art

Art Passages

A Bird and Blossoms Polychrome stonepaste tile with polychrome glaze in cuerda seca technique, Safavid, Isfahan, Iran, circa 17th century 9 3/8 x 9 3/8 inches.

Prahlad Bubbar

Ten Leaves from the Shahnameh (illustrated: Rostam kills the White Demon) Iran (Shiraz), circa 1570. Opaque watercolor and gold on paper. Leaf: 44 x 29 cm each leaf.

Oliver Forge and Brendan Lynch Ltd.

Rustam before Kai Kavus having knocked down Tus

Folio from a Shahnama

Bijapur, India, circa 1610

Ink, opaque watercolour and gold on gold-sprinkled paper; and a further detached folio, unillustrated, with two captions in red on gold ground and one on its verso; each with four columns of nasta'liq divided by gold rules; remargined

5 1/3 by 3 in.; 13.5 by 8 cm. painting 8 by 4 3/4 in.; 20.5 by 12.3 cm. folio

Francesca Galloway

Rare Pandan North India, Mughal, 17th century Gilt copper and blue champleve enamel

Kapoor Galleries

Uma (Parvati) South India, Tamil Nadu, Chola period, 11th-12th century Copper alloy

Thomas Murray

Nuo Mask of a Wise Leader Minority Areas, Southwest China Wood, pigment, fiber 19th/ early 20th Century 9.25 in / 24 cm

Susan Ollemans

A GOLD PECTORAL

(*Marangga*) Sumba Indonesia 19th CENTURY

Size: 28 x 18 cm

Prakar Akar

Jayashree Chakravarty
Route Map of Experience

Installation size: Part A-10.5'x41' and part B-10.5'x14.5' Pigment, tea stain, clay, acrylic, glue, nepali paper, tissue

2003

Image courtesy: Artist and the gallery

Runjeet Singh

Khatamkari Dagger Turkey, Ottoman Empire 17th Century 11 inches Wood, steel, gold, mother of pearl, ebony, ivory

Ancient and/or Contemporary Chinese Art

Ralph M. Chait Galleries

Chinese Imperial Green Ground Porcelain Bowl Kangxi mark and period, ca: late 17th century

Decorated inside and out with Eight Sacred Horses leaping over waves, strewn with Precious Things

Height: 3 inches (7.6 cm)

Diameter: 6 1/4 inches (15.8 cm)

Chambers Fine Art

Egami Etsu (b. 1994) Face, 2020 Oil on canvas 66 1/8 x 46 1/2 in (168 x 118 cm)

Nicholas Grindley LLC

A pair of hongmu square stools Qing dynasty, Kangxi period, early 18^{th} century height 47 cm / 18 1/2 in., width 55.6 cm / 21 7/8 in., depth 55.6 cm / 21 7/8 in.

Ink Studio

Peng Kanglong Almost Full Moon 2020 Ink on paper 31 1/8 x 56 3/4 inches 79 x 144 cm

Kaikodo LLC

Four Bronze Long-horned Bulls and a Horse Western Han Dynasty 3rd-1st century B.C. Lengths: 17.8 to 24.8 cm. (7 to 9 3/4 in.)

Zetterquist Galleries

Treasure Box

Box: 18th c. Objects: Shang - Ming Dynasty 32.4cm h. x 35.5dm w. x 25.4cm deep

Ancient and/or Contemporary Japanese Art

The Art of Japan

Takahashi Hiroaki (1871-1945)

In the foothills of the mountains, Atagoyama 1932; Fall and Summer

Color Woodblock Print, Ed. 200

Publisher: Fusui Gabo

Blocks Carved by: Takano Shichinosuke

Printed by: Ono Tomisaburô

Dai Ichi Arts, Ltd.

SHINGU Sayaka (1979-)

Erosion 2021 ceramic

62 x 48 x (h)37.5cm. 24inches W x 19 inches H x 15inches D

Egenolf Gallery Japanese Prints

Chiura Obata (1885-1975)

Evening Glow at Mono Lake, from Mono Mills, 1930

Hara Shobo

UTAGAWA HIROSHIGE

Toto ryogoku yusen no zu (View of pleasure boats at Ryogoku, the Eastern capital) triptych, polychrome woodcut

Japan, c.1830

Sebastian Izzard LLC Asian Art

UTAGAWA KUNISADA (1786–1865)

With GORYŪTEI TOKUSHO (1793–1853), author

A Tipsy Courtesan from Fukagawa

Color woodblock print, aiban uchiwa-e, 91/4 x 115/8 in. (23.5 x 29.5 cm); circa 1830

Series: Three Fashionable Tipplers (Fūzoku san-nin namayoi)

Signature: Gototei Kunisada ga

Joan b Mirviss LTD

KITAŌJI ROSANJIN (1883-1959)

Media: Glazed Stoneware Size: 17 ¼" H x 15 ½" D

Onishi Gallery

Ōsumi Yukie (b. 1945), Living National Treasure Silver Vase *Araiso* (Rough Shore), 2020 Hammered silver with *nunome zogan* (textile imprint inlay) decoration in lead and gold h. 10 5/8 x w. 10 x d. 10 in. (27.1 x 25.3 x 25.3 cm)

Scholten Japanese Art

Tsukioka Yoshitoshi (1839-1892) Fujiwara Yasumasa Plays the Flute by Moonlight, ca. 1883 woodblock printed triptych 14 1/8 by 28 1/2 in., 36 by 72.4 cm

Tai Modern

Monden Yuichi Fallen Pine Needle Basket, 2011 madake bamboo, rattan 19.5 x 14 x 9 in.

Thomsen Gallery

Maki-e Gold Lacquer Box with Design of Jellyfish By Yoshio Okada (b. 1977), 2020 Size 5½ x 5½ x 5½ inches

Hiroshi Yanagi Oriental Art

Gozu Tennō, Height: 54 cm

Koichi Yanagi Oriental Fine Arts

Landscape
Kano Motonobu (1476-1559)
Muromachi-Momoyama period, 15th-16th century.
Ink-on-paper hanging scroll

Korean Ancient and/or Contemporary Art

HK Art & Antiques LLC

An inkstone case (Yeonsang) Joseon Dynasty (Late 19th century) Persimmon wood 15 1/2 x 10 x 14 3/4in.