

# Asia Week New York 2013

THE WEEK-LONG celebration is filled with a non-stop schedule of simultaneous gallery open-houses, Asian art auctions, as well as numerous museum exhibitions, lectures, and special events.

With the addition of 18 new galleries, the committee of Asia Week New York have announced a record number of international participants this year. For the first time this year, an abridged version of the website will be available in Chinese.

The Open House Weekend, for all participating galleries, is Saturday and Sunday, March 16 and 17, from 10 am to 6 pm. The gallery shows remain open the following week, however, please check individual dealer's listings for exact dates and times.

## MARTIN BARNES LORBER

For complete details about all aspects of Asia Week New York, visit [www.asiaweekny.com](http://www.asiaweekny.com). Asian Art Newspaper have also produced their Asian Art New York app, <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/asian-art-new-york/id351222046>, which can be found on iTunes, search Asian Art Newspaper.



Large gilt-copper hand warmer, signed Yunjian Hu Wenming Zhi, Ming dynasty, 17th century, height 27.9 cm, Asian Art Studio

## Chinese

### TREASURED OBJECTS OF CONTEMPLATION

Asian Art Studio, 15 to 23 March

This Los Angeles gallery is bringing a select and highly interesting group of Chinese works of art to New York for the week. On the personal use front is a well-proportioned, late Ming gilt-copper hand warmer, signed *Yujian Hu Wenming zhi*; he is well-known in this art and this example is the only example known of such a large size and shape. For jewel-like objects, Asian Art Studio is exhibiting an imperial 18th-century belt hook, edged in a malachite bezel and with a large pale-coloured coral plaque carved with two dragons amidst waves, 'disputing' a pearl.

Asian Art Studio, The Fuller Building, 7/F, 41 East 57th Street, New York 10022, tel 310 477 8316, [asianartstudio@msn.com](mailto:asianartstudio@msn.com), [www.asianartstudio.com](http://www.asianartstudio.com). Hours: Fri/day, 15 March 11-6; Open House Weekend 10-6; 18-23 March Mon-Sat, 11-6.

### SPRING EXHIBITION OF CHINESE ART

Ralph M. Chait Galleries, 17 to 23 March  
Already into their second century in business, Ralph M. Chait Galleries is the grandfather of all American Asian art dealers and has held a position in the field since its founding, based on their original mission of providing the finest of discreet elegance in Chinese art. For that reason, every Rockefeller house in the country is peppered with porcelains from Chait.

This year, the tradition continues with some fine examples of porcelains. Among them is a rare Kangxi-marked blue and white quadrangular vase with scenes from *The Ode to the Red Cliff*, one of three known, one in the



Chinese Imperial blue and white porcelain quadrangular vase, decorated with scenes and the verses of the Ode to the Red Cliff, Kangxi mark and period, circa late 17th century, height 52.1 cm, Ralph M. Chait Galleries

Shanghai Museum and one in a private US collection. Lingbi? Always. Such scholar's rocks have been part of the Chait landscape since before almost all of the other Chinese art dealers in the US existed. As for Longquan celadons, for which Chait has always been associated, they are offering a bold Yuan/Ming vase carved with lotus scrolls and covered with an excellent glaze. On the 18th-century end of their scale, there is a blue and white *yuhuchunping* with an ancient pine in a mountain landscape.

It bears a Xuande mark, but is 18th century, probably Yongzheng. The shape is elegantly classic and the painting is designed to conform to a perfect fit on the exterior.

Ralph M. Chait Galleries, 10/F, 724 Fifth Avenue, New York 10019, tel 212 397 2818, [info@rmchaitgal.net](mailto:info@rmchaitgal.net), [www.rmchait.com](http://www.rmchait.com).

Hours: Tues-Sat 11-5:30, otherwise by appointment. Open house weekend: March 16-17, closed on the Saturday, but open Sunday 10-6.

### RECENT ACQUISITIONS AND GALLERY COLLECTION OF PAINTINGS, SCHOLAR OBJECTS AND FURNITURE

China 2000 Fine Art, 16 to 22 March

The Wenders have chosen a very intelligently placed new location which caters to receiving collectors on a very personal level with their massive library, intimate exhibition area, their wide selection of 20th-century paintings, scholar's rocks and scholar's objects. When I was there I felt that the atmosphere was one in which the individual was welcomed into a private space reserved for him or herself, the paintings and the works of art.

The selection of scholar's articles is varied and each has its own sense of 'personality.' Items offered for sale are a pair of 18th-century *jumu* folding chairs with their original black and red lacquer, and a dated (1685) Zhu Yizun Duan inkstone with *zitan* cover and carved with plum and calligraphy, which bears the signature and seal of the calligrapher, Zhu Yizun. There is a white *taihu* with a *hongmu* base and an 18th-century *bitong* carved with an openwork design of intertwined tree roots, and a pale green Yongzheng scroll weight in the form of a partly open hand scroll. Modern paintings, always the gallery's forte, are represented by works by Zhu Qizhan and He Sai Bang, among others.

China 2000 Fine Art, 177 East 87th Street, Suite 601, New York 10128, tel 212 472 9800, [C2000FA@aol.com](mailto:C2000FA@aol.com), [www.china2000fineart.com](http://www.china2000fineart.com). Hours: Open House Weekend 10-6; 18-22 March, Mon-Thurs 11-5, otherwise by appointment.

### MAGNIFICENCE WITHIN: NEW INK PAINTINGS BY TAI XIANGZHOU

The Chinese Porcelain Company, 16 to 22 March

The Chinese Porcelain Company hosted this artist's first US exhibition two years ago and his works proved to be an instant success, being acquired by museums and collectors alike. A pupil of Liu Dan, the artist is showing 14 new works. With the exception of two dry-brush paintings of scholar's rocks, one in black ink and one in red, the exhibition of both hanging scrolls and hand scrolls is filled with the artist's soaring landscapes – some on a very intimate scale and some on a visually grand scale. One's impression of the exhibition is a room filled with



Imperial Brush handscroll by the Daoguang Emperor, 1849, 44.7 x 126 cm, Michael C Hughes



Scroll weights, jade, Yongzheng period, 15.8 x 7.9 x 2.5 cm, China 2000 Fine Art

the essence of Southern Song, but it is only the essence, not studied copies, because Tai injects endless nuances and kinetic energy into these stiff rock formations through his inventive approach to light, water and sky. Some of his success is based on his knowledge of paper-making techniques of the Tang, Song, Ming and Qing dynasties and he uses a silk-like paper called *Chenxing Tang shi* which is custom-made for him using 10th-century techniques. His attention to his materials is as pronounced as his attention to how his brush travels.

The Chinese Porcelain Company, 475 Park Avenue, New York 10022, tel 212 838-7744, [chineseporcelainco@gmail.com](mailto:chineseporcelainco@gmail.com), [www.chineseporcelainco.com](http://www.chineseporcelainco.com). Hours: Mon-Fri 10-6. Open House Weekend 10-6.

### CHINESE SCHOLARS' OBJECTS

Nicholas Grindley Works of Art, 16 to 22 March

Nicholas Grindley, whose time is divided between New York and Beijing, has always had a reputation for presenting objects of scholastic



Avalokitesvara, gilt bronze, late Ming/early Qing dynasty, 17th century, height 18.1 cm, Nicholas Grindley Works of Art

interest, combined with taste, subtlety and elegance, and this exhibition continues this tradition.

Amongst the works of art on show, three are typical of his taste: a handsome late Ming/early Qing gilt bronze, and two *bitong*. The bronze is a brilliantly gilded seated figure of Avalokitesvara. The quality of the casting is detailed and crisp and it carries a good provenance, having been in the collection of Robert and Jean Schoenberg of St. Louis, Missouri. The *bitong*, in *huanghuali* and one in *zitan*, are in very different styles: The *huanghuali* example has a slightly flaring lip and is carved in the round with high relief rockwork and flowering plum, while the *zitan* piece is carved with narrow, precise reeding. All-in-all, the exhibition is a balm to the mind and a treat to the eye.

Nicholas Grindley Works of Art, at Hazlitt Gooden & Fox, 17 East 76th Street, New York 10021, tel 212 772 1950, [nick@nicholasgrindley.com](mailto:nick@nicholasgrindley.com), [www.nicholasgrindley.com](http://www.nicholasgrindley.com). Hours: Open House Weekend 10-6; Mon-Fri, 10-5, otherwise by appointment.

### CHINESE WORKS OF ART & PAINTINGS

Michael C Hughes, 13 to 23 March

Michael, for years known for his expertise in things Chinese, and especially for his great scholarship in snuffbottles, has put together a select group of works of art for this year's Asia Week. The boldest work is a Daoguang Imperial calligraphy, dated to 1849, with four characters, two of which read 'Imperial Brush'. In addition, there is an archaic bronze *gui*, cast with *tao tieh* on a ground of *lei wen*; it is a bold vessel with an even 'wet' patina. Michael's snuffbottle scholarship is in evidence with a nephrite jade snuffbottle by the master of the Rocks School, carved on the brown 'skin' with mountains and pavilions and with a launch on water, all under a full moon carved into the pale green body.

Michael C. Hughes at the Mark Murray Gallery, 39 East 72nd Street, 5/F, New York, 10021, tel 212 933 4124, [mhughesllc@earthlink.net](mailto:mhughesllc@earthlink.net). Hours: 13-15 March 10-5; Open House Weekend 10-6; 18-23 March, Mon-Sat: 10-6.

### FROM CURIOSITY TO DEVOTION

Jadestone, 16 to 24 March

There is an array of snuffbottles, jades and Buddhist works of art in this show. Two of the varied works of art include a beautifully painted *famille-rose ruyi* sceptre with a provenance

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Magnificence Within, seal: Tai Xiangzhou, ink on silk, mounted size: 271.8 x 52.7 cm, The Chinese Porcelain Company