**12 November 2016 | Visit to a collector of Chinees export porcelain in the province of Groningen**

 On Saturday 12 November the ceramics committee organises a trip to a collector of Chinese export porcelain in the province of Groningen.

We are expected at 12:30. Lunch will be catered for. We strive to carpool from the Randstad and we therefore ask you to share your telephone number when you register, so we can co-ordinate this. If you would like to share a car, the committee will do their best to match participants.

The maximum number of participants is 20 persons.

Location: details follow after application

Registration: vvak.nl/activiteiten/aanmelden-activiteiten

**14 November 2016 | Curator’s lecture by Anna Slaczka – *A South-Indian fragment of a column from the collection of the VVAK***

Dr Anna Slaczka, curator of South-Asian art in the Rijksmuseum, will hold this year’s curator’s lecture. She will talk about a South-Indian column that belongs to the collection fo the VVAK. In 1955 the VVAK bought the column from the French dealer Moreau Gobard. The piece is decorated in relief with a garland and dwarfs and is attributed to Andra Pradesh, 250-300 AD. It is interesting to reconsider this important object from the collection. Where are the column’s origins? Where does it belong to? Where is the rest of the column? Anna Slaczka has been researching this object over the past years and will present her research n this lecture.

Programme:

19:00 Registration

19:30 Lecture Anna Slaczka ‘A South-Indian fragment of a column from the collection of the

VVAK’

20:30 Drinks in the lobby of the auditorium

Location: Auditorium Rijksmuseum Amsterdam

Registration: vvak.nl/activiteiten/aanmelden-activiteiten

**19 November 2016 | Visit Ikigai SieboldHuis**

On Saturday 19 November the committee Ikigai will visit the 'Arita, Schilderijen van Debora Makkus'. The artist will be present to tell us more about her work. Beside detailed paintings, some original porcelain Arita masterpieces and some Hirado objects from the surroundings of Arita will be exhibited. We can also visit the exhibition 'Strijd om de macht. Prenten van Takeda Hideo'. Afterwards we will have drinks in a nearby café.

Start: 14:00

Location: Sieboldhuis, Rapenburg 19 Leiden

Registration: vvak.nl/activiteiten/aanmelden-activiteiten

**26 November 2016 | Student symposium**

On Saturday 26 November 2016 the VVAK will organise her first ‘*Student Symposium*’ in the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam. At this symposium, some of the most talented students in the field of Asian Art will have the opportunity to present their research with a short presentation. The conclusive lecture will be given by Winnie Wong: *Van Gogh on Demand - China and the Readymade*. Wong is Assistant Professor Rhetoric and History of Art at the University of California, Berkeley.

We invite all members to listen to these interesting presentations of young academics.

Location: Auditorium Rijksmuseum Amsterdam

Registration: website vvak.nl/activiteiten/aanmelden-activiteiten

Programme Student Symposium

12:30-13:00 Registration  
13:00-13:15 Welcome VVAK Education committee  
13:15-14:15 Student presentations  
14:15-14:45 Break with coffee/tea  
14:45-15:45 Student presentations  
15:45-16:00 Conclusion by prof. dr. Anne Gerritsen, Universiteit Leiden  
16:00-16:45 Lecture Winnie Wong  
16:45-18:00 Reception

Participants and the title of their presentations are:

Karwin Cheung: The Art of Travel - Traditions and Transformations in Joseon Korea

Michelle de Wit: Lost Love Letters along the former Silk Road

Michael Lee: Taking China out of Chinaware - A Transcultural Approach to the Porcelain Trade

Yu Yusen: Sino-Buddhist Iconography in “Islamic” Paintings of Century Asia and Iran - From Late-14th to Early-16th Century

Heidi Jie: Stories in the Threads - The Effects of Intervention, Interpretation and Representation on the Kantha

Feng He: The Global Lives of a Female Dancer - Transcultural and Trans-Media Appropriation of a Chinse Motif in The Netherlands and Germany

AND FURTHER:

**29 November 2016 | Symposium Chinese export paintings: studies and interpretations**

Speakers from the museum world, artdealers,(art) historians, sinologists, anthropologists and otheracademics will come together in this interdisciplinary symposium,where the subject of Chinese export paintings will be viewed from varied angles and perspectives.

The symposium is organised door Anne Gerritsen, Rosalien van der Poel and the Shared Taste project of the Universiteit Leiden.

Programme:

13:00-13:10 Welcome by Rosalien van der Poel

13:10-15:10 Studies on export paintings: Lectures by May Bo Ching, Jan van Campen and

Patrick Conner

15:10-15:30 Tea-coffee break

15:30-17:30 Interpreting collections: Lectures by Pieter ter Keurs, Pauline Marchand, Irine

Jacobs and Winnie Wong

17:30-17:45 Wrap-up by Anne Gerritsen

17:45 Reception

Location: Evenementenzaal Museum Volkenkunde/ Nationaal Museum van Wereldculturen, Steenstraat 1, Leiden

Aanmelden: Attendance is free, but please register at register@sharedtaste.nl

**30 November 2016 | Doctorate for Rosalien van der Poel**

On Wednesday 30 November 2016 Rosalien van der Poel will obtain her doctoral degree at the Uiniveristeit Leiden by publicly defending her dissertation **Made for Trade-Made in China. Chinese export paintings in Dutch collections: art and commodity**.

The members of the VVAK are all cordially invited to be present.

Locatio: Groot Auditorium van het Academiegebouw van de Rijksuniversiteit Leiden, Rapenburg 73, Leiden

Start: 16:15 exactly. The doors of the Groot Auditorium will be opened from 16:00 onwards. You are requested to be on time.

There will be a reception afterwards.

Register: voor 20 november via rosalien@xs4all.nl

**1 december 2017 | Lecture Winnie Wong ‘Van Gogh on Demand: On Making and Faking in China’**

We will speak about the artist’s village Dafen (Shenzhen, China), where artists (re)produce paintings on a large scale. The Dutch artist Sasha Pohle will show his movie *Reframing the Artist*, followed by a discussion about ‘making and faking art' in China.

Attendance is free.

Time: 17.00-19.00

Location: Framer Framed, Tolhuistuin, Tolhuisweg 5, Amsterdam (near Amsterdam CS)

**Exhibitions:**

**In the Netherlands**

**until 9 July 2017 | *Sexy Ceramics*, Keramiekmuseum Princessehof Leeuwarden**

The Princessehof National Museum of Ceramics in Leeuwarden presentsa titillating exhibition about eroticism:*Sexy Ceramics*. Classical Greek vases, refined Asian porcelain and contemporary ceramics by artists such as Louise Bourgeois and Jessica Harrison escort the viewer into the world of sex and seduction. The exhibition follows the phases of love-play, from the first touch and gentle courtship to the act of lovemaking itself. Attention is paid to hidden symbols, evocative shapes and explicit objects, but also to the sensuality of the material, the clay itself.

For more information: [www.princessehof.nl/sexyceramics](http://www.princessehof.nl/sexyceramics)

**until 27 November 2016 | *Strijd om de macht. Prenten van Takeda Hideo*, Japanmuseum SieboldHuis Leiden**

**From 10 September to 27 November Japan Museum SieboldHuis will present a stirring exhibition that takes a contemporary look at a traditional Japanese theme.  Prints by present-day artist Hideo Takeda tell the classic tale of Genpei – the battle for power between the Taira and Minamoto families in the 12th century.**

For more information: <http://www.sieboldhuis.org/tentoonstellingen/detail/strijd_om_de_macht._prenten_van_hideo_takeda>

**until 27 November 2016 | *Arita. Schilderijen van Debora Makkus*, Japanmuseum SieboldHuis Leiden**

From 10 September to 27 November Japan Museum SieboldHuis will take a contemporary look at a traditional Japanese subject.  In the exhibition: ‘Arita’ Paintings by Debora Makkus’, realistic still life works will be displayed together with authentic porcelain artefacts that served as a source of inspiration for the paintings.

For more information: <http://www.sieboldhuis.org/tentoonstellingen/detail/arita._schilderijen_van_debora_makkus>

**until 13 December 2016 | *Japanse theaterkostuums*, Rijksmuseum Amsterdam**

Discover the colourful tales from 'No', one of Japan’s oldest forms theatrical forms, this autumn. On 21 October the Rijksmuseum unveils seven magnificent No theatre kimonos that e that exemplify the changes in No through the centuries.

For more information: https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en/kimonos-from-the-okura-collection

**until 29 January 2017 | *De* *Boeddha*, Tropenmuseum Amsterdam**

Discover how Buddhism is experienced worldwide. Join us on a journey through centuries-old Chinese monasteries and to the Buddha’s birthplace in Nepal, to the Indonesian Borobudur and the so-called Tulip Buddhism in the Netherlands.

There have never been so many Buddha statues in the Tropenmuseum before. With the help of 100 Buddha statues, including unique international top items, you’ll follow the life story of one of the most inspiring figures in world history.

For more information: <https://tropenmuseum.nl/nl/tentoonstelling-DeBoeddha>

**until 29 January 2017 | *Heroes in Japanese prints*, Museum Volkenkunde Leiden**

**Popular stories about Japanese heroes are depicted in prints and book illustrations.**

For more information: <https://volkenkunde.nl/nl/helden-in-japanse-prenten>

**t/m 29 januari 2017 | *Indonesian bronzes*, Museum Volkenkunde Leiden**

For the first time the Museum Volkendkunde will exhibit a special collection that usually stays in storage: the collection of Indosian bronzes.

For more information: <https://volkenkunde.nl/nl/galerijtentoonstellingen>

**International**

**France, Paris, Musée national des arts Asiatiques Guimet**

**Jade, des empereurs à l’Art Déco, 19-10-2016-16-01-2017**

Exhibtion of jade objects from the collection of Musée national des arts Asiatiques Guimet, the Cernuschi Museum, the Louvre and the National Museum of Natural History. The objects are presented alongside Imperial pieces from the national Palace Museum in Taipei, the Chinese Museum of the Empress Eugenie at the Château of Fontainebleau and the Cartier House. On show are more than 300 works offering a historical epic of jade from the beginning in Chinese history until the 1920s when the refinement of jade was a source of inspiration for jewelry and modern art objects. Jade is part of the oldest history of Chinese art. It has the image of goodness, because it is soft to the touch, smooth and discrete because its veins are thin, compact and it is solid.

**France, Paris, Musée Cernuschi**

**Walasse Ting, The Flower Thief, 07-10-2016-26-02-2017**

Exhibition of the work of Walasse Ting, aiming to highlight the important role he played on the international artistic scene as well as a showcase of the rich diversity and complexity of his work, which is still largely unknown. On show are more than 80 paintings and calligraphies Walasse Ting donated to the Musée Cernuschi. The works on show - ranging from monumental compositions portraying women with botanical bodies to the leaves of a confession book - are intimately intertwined with the subversive identity of the Flower Thief. Ding Xiongquan, who was born in 1928, chose the pseudonym Walasse Ting and the nickname, The Flower Thief. He was one of the landmark figures of contemporary Chinese art and a well-known name on the international stage. This unclassifiable artist, who was active in Paris, New York and Amsterdam, also collaborated with a number of artists, whose perspectives enriched his work by combining Chinese art with modern Western art. Walasse Ting began studying art in China. In 1953, he moved to Paris, where he continued exploring figurative art in ink. His expressive works are similar to those produced by the CoBrA movement and by artists like Pierre Alechinsky and Asger Jorn, with whom he developed fruitful relationships. He nurtured a predilection for Matisse during his years in Paris, but only began truly exploring it in his work after moving to New York, where he began alternating between ink and pure color, and between the codified traditions of Chinese painting and the spontaneity of Action Painting.

**Germany, Berlin, Museum Dahlem - Museum für Asiatische Kunst**

**Chrysanthemums, Autumn Leaves and Snow - Masterpieces from the Collection of Klaus F. Naumann, Until 08-01-2017**

Display of a selection of works from Klaus F. Naumann's collection of East Asian art, that comprises about 400 objects by 200 artists and nearly 400 objects. With a gallery of its own that presents a regularly changing selection of works, the collection particularly highlights the fields of Japanese painting and lacquer art. This seasonal selection focuses on images and objects that present themes like the joyous and melancholy sides of autumnal nature and the transition, accompanied by snowfall, into the changing of the year. Together with images of chrysanthemums, autumn leaves and chestnuts, a pair of six-sided folding screens on which evergreen pine trees disappear under a thick blanket of snow marks the end of the natural cycle.

**Germany, Berlin, Museum Dahlem - Museum für Asiatische Kunst**

**In the Autumn of the Tradition: Rinpa Painting, Until 08-01-2017**

Exhibition offering insight into the ways the production of later Rinpa painters was intertwined, the art-historical propagation of the painting tradition (as the Kôrin school) by means of publications, and the collecting throughout Europe that stemmed from it. On show are works from around 1906, presented here for the first time alongside the permanent loan from the Museen der Stadt Nürnberg, from the collection of economist Carl Johannes Fuchs (1865–1934), as well as a loan from a recently established private collection. Associated first and foremost with the famous artists Tawaraya Sôtatsu (active approx. 1600–1640), Ogata Kôrin (1658–1716) and Sakai Hôitsu (1761–1828), the Rinpa style of Japanese painting began to find its way into emerging European collections of Asian art around 1900. However, these were mostly recent works by little-known painters—from the decline of the tradition—which were acquired as representative works of the Kôrin style and soon fell into oblivion. Due to the enthusiasm for Kôrin, the first name given to the group, was the Kôrin school; it was also, however, referred to as the Kôetsu school as well as the Sôtatsu-Kôetsu school, after other principal members. Today it is most commonly known as Rinpa, a name composed of the second character in '(Kô)rin' and the character 'ha' (school).

**Germany, Berlin, Museum Dahlem - Museum für Asiatische Kunst**

**The Ruins of Kočo: Traces of Wooden Architecture from the Ancient Silk Road, Until 08-01-2017**

Exhibition about the discovery of the temple city of Kočo. The show includes a preview of the Humboldt Forum, presenting the unique objects that were found in the three buildings analyzed in Kočo. Paintings, texts and sculptures that came to light in Buddhist and Manichaean monasteries, as well as architectural elements and everyday objects, can speak to us today in new ways. More than 100 years after the return of the last Berlin researchers from Central Asia (1914), great discoveries are still being made among the finds of that time. Painted wooden beams, some inscribed with Buddhist texts, which Albert Grünwedel brought back with him in 1903, saving them from to be used as firewood, have now been identified as pieces of a ceiling and door construction. This discovery led members of the museum staff to Xinjiang, to the temple city of Kočo (Chinese: Gaochang) near Turfan, in the Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China. There they searched for traces of wooden architecture and compared reports and photographs from the three Turfan expeditions with structures still visible at the location today. This project, funded by the Gerda Henkel Stiftung, has led to a new understanding of the monastery buildings, as is demonstrated in this exhibition. The documentation of photographic material from yesterday and today and the accounts of researchers from 1902–1907 compared with contemporary observations afford rare glimpses into the work of modern scientists.

**Germany, Berlin, Museum Dahlem - Museum für Asiatische Kunst**

**Nature between Poetry and Mimesis: Flowers and Birds in the Paintings of India and China, Until 08-01-2017**

Display of paintings from India and China presenting flowers and birds. Flowers and birds are ubiquitous throughout Indian painting, which typically features rich colors. In the courtly art of the Mughal dynasty (16th–19th c.), they become independent subjects, not least as a result of European influences. In the poetic paintings of the time of the Qing dynasty (17th–20th c.), they are likewise central subjects. The palette of Chinese painters is generally more subdued and their tendency towards abstraction fundamentally distinguishes them from Mughal artists. In the painting “Flowers and Birds" by Chein Zhidao, the flowers depicted are sweet olive (Lat. *Osthmanus fragrans*) and baby rose (Lat. *Rosa multiflora*). The style of painting suggests that the artist was influenced by Western oil painting, which can be traced to the fact that Chen Zhidao, as court painter during the reign of Emperor Qianlong (1736–1795), had the possibility to learn the oil painting techniques practiced by the Jesuit missionaries who also served at the court.

**Germany, Berlin, Museum Dahlem - Museum für Asiatische Kunst**

**Torii Rei: Ise, Until 08-01-2017**

Exhibition of works by the painter Torii Rei to mark the G7 summit meeting in Ise, Japan on May 26th and 27th, 2016. This is the first presentation of a site-specific cycle of fifteen paintings by Torii Rei, created exclusively for Berlin. In his work he has focused on the extensive grounds in which the shrine complex of Ise, which is intimately connected with Japan's Imperial institution, is situated. The shrine complex is close to the eponymous city, in Mie Prefecture. The Ise Shrine is one of the most significant Shinto holy sites. Shinto is a Japanese religious practice associated with the numinous beings known in Japanese as Kami. Kami are characteristically manifested in rocks, trees and waterfalls. The shrines dedicated to their veneration are always found in a natural setting, on which the Shinto faith places high value.

**Germany, Berlin, Pergamonmuseum**

**The Legacy of the Ancient Kings. Ctesiphon and the Persian Sources of Islamic Art, 15-11-2016-02-04-2017**

Exhibition about the Islamic cultures and art. Like the Islamic religion itself, Islamic art also built on its predecessors in the Middle East. Focusing on Ctesiphon, a vast landscape of ruins south of Baghdad, this show is devoted to the Persian legacy inherited by Islam. Dominated by the monumental vaulted hall of the royal palace, the Taq-e Kesra, the city today is an emblem of the grandeur and downfall of the mighty Sassanid empire, a great power in ancient Persia about which little is known today. For centuries it competed with Rome and Byzantium. In the 7th century CE, however, the conquests by the Arab armies fundamentally changed the political balance of power. Culturally, too, a transformation took place – "Islamic art" was born. Starting with a panoramic view of the world around 600 CE, it introduces a multi-cultural landscape and illustrates how old techniques, ideas and motifs lived on. Many things were adopted to serve as the basis for new innovations – while others disappeared into the darkness of history.

**Germany, Cologne, Köln Messe**

**Cologne Fine Art & Antiques 2016, 17-11-2016-20-11-2016**

This year’s edition of the Fine Art and Antiques fair with a range of ancient art, modern art and applied art and design. Around 110 selected galleries and dealers present artistic highlights from Europe and across the world.

**Germany, Cologne, Museum für Ostasiatische Kunst**

**Passions in the art of East Asia, Until 29-01-2017**

Exhibition about human passion that plays an important role in East Asian art. On show are monumental dreamscapes with towering mountains, ancestral portraits and depictions of loyal civil servants and exemplary scholars tell of Confucian morality and virtue-love. Genre paintings also focus on women who achieved tragic fame because of their sacrifice for their in-laws and their subordination to their husband. In Confucianism, it was the moral duty of the sons to honor the ancestral spirits in rituals, gloriously to leave his own name in the history books and to secure the continued existence of the family with numerous children. Physical passion and lovemaking, jealousy and voyeurism are themes of erotic albums. Especially the Japanese woodblock prints show the world of entertainment. Board games and social pleasures are entrenched passions in the culture of China and Japan. These include the love of wine and drunkenness, but also love for tea and to sobriety. In addition to depictions of play, community tours and pilgrimages, the exhibit also includes picnic paraphernalia as well as wine and tea bowls. In Buddhism, emotions such as hatred, envy, love and compassion play an important role.

**Germany, Stuttgart, Linden Museum**

**Inro - Japanese Belt Ornaments, Until 29-01-2017**

Small-scale exhibition presenting a selection of the Linden Museum's extensive inrō collection in the East Asia Department, and pairs these inrō with a large assortment of netsuke. Inrō are sets of small cases nested within one another, and were predominantly used to carry official seals and medicine. Inrō were attached to a sash by a toggle (netsuke). These cases first came into fashion in the 16th century and remained a striking accessory of Japanese men's fashion up until the end of the 1800s.

**Germany, Stuttgart, Linden Museum**

**Oishii! Japan's Food Culture, 15-10-2016-23-04-2017**

Large exhibition about Japanese food and drinking. On show are objects from the Linden Museum as well as items on loan from home and abroad are presented. Based on the object situation, the following core themes, alongside a general introduction into the topic, become crystallized: rice cultivation and its importance for the Japanese society; sake, a “holy drink”; the role of fish, seafood and algae in the Japanese cuisine; vegetables and condiments; noodles; Bentô; food to go (picnic); the world of tea cultures (chanoyu and sencha). „Oishii!“ – „It tastes good!“ – is one of the most common words in Japan to describe food. It is an expression of culinary taste which goes hand in hand with the social and cultural identity of the one who eats. That is why food is much more than merely nutrition. It is a “total social fact” (M. Mauss) which is connected to all fields of human living and which, as if looking through a window of time, permits a glance at the different aspects of a culture and a society.

**Ireland, Dublin, Chester Beatty Library**

**Hong Ling: A Retrospective, 21-10-2016-29-01-2017**

Retrospective exhibition presenting the development of the work of Hong Ling, from student paintings in his personal collection to his vast later works painted in oil and in ink. Born in Beijing in 1955, the artist Hong Ling studied oil painting in the years after the Chinese Cultural Revolution (1966–76). In the mountains of rural China, however, his brush found a new path. Drawing together the imported medium of oil on canvas with the landscapes and philosophies of China’s artistic heritage, Hong Ling has made a contribution to the world of Chinese landscape painting unparalleled in its vibrancy. Working from his studio in the foothills of the Yellow Mountains of China’s Anhui Province, Hong Ling reveals the charged atmosphere of this dramatic locale from the bold colours of the shifting seasons to the heavy mists that weave among pine-clad peaks. As exhilarating as they are immersive, Hong Ling’s paintings stand as an invitation to join him in the landscape that is his home and his inspiration.

**Russia, Hermitage,St. Petersburg**

**Netsuke. Japanese Miniature Sculptures from Private Collections, Until 16-10-2016**

Exhibition about the art of miniature sculptures, or netsuke, that is a unique phenomenon in the cultural history of Japan, which emerged and became widespread in the Edo period (1603–1868). The show features over one hundred and eighty items lent by Moscow and St Petersburg collectors. From purely utilitarian objects which served to attach the small necessities to a belt, netsuke evolved into real works of art which adorned the dress of the Samurai and wealthy citizens in the 18th century and conquered the hearts of European collectors in the second half of the 19th century. The art of netsuke carving started to develop in two cities of central Japan: Osaka and Kyoto. The earliest netsuke pieces date back to the 17th century. Among the first examples are personal seals, or hanko, in the shape of the Chinese lion sitting on a pedestal (karashishi).

**Switzerland, Zurich, Museum Rietberg**

**Gardens of the World, Until 09-10-2016**

Exhibition presenting a promenade through the world's gardens, from Japan to England and from ancient Egypt to modern times. The show presents famous gardens from all over the world and tells the stories of people who looked at gardens for inspiration, love, luck or sanctuary. Among the highlights are the famous names in art, such as the Japanese artist Kitagawa Utamaro, along with Claude Monet and Max Liebermann, and contemporary artists, such as Ai Weiwei and Wolfgang Laib. Another highlight focuses on gardens in Indian paintings. The variety of the gardens and the close relationship that people have with nature can be seen in over sixty pictures: sumptuous palace grounds with geometric gardens, terraces that host lively debates and snug garden pavilions where lovers meet.

**Switzerland, Zurich, Park-Villa Rieter**

**Indian pahari painting - horst metzger collection, 1-12-2016-26-02-2017**

Exhibition showing sixty works of Indian Pahari painting from the Horst Metzger Collection. The paintings originate from the workshops of the Pahari region, at the foothills of the Himalayas in north-western India, that were commissioned in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries by princes with a penchant for art. Most of them show scenes from wide-ranging series presenting Krishna’s life, but some illustrate texts describing the wondrous deeds of the goddesses. The works in the collection are regarded as treasures of Indian painting on account of their delicate paper, fine drawings and valuable colour pigments.

**United Kingdom, Museum of East Asian Art, Bath**

**RED – Culture, History and Craftsmenship, Until 12-02-2017**

Exhibition presenting the materials used to produce red colours, explaining the symbolism of the colour red and exploring the rapid advancement of red wares during the Ming dynasty (1368-1644). The colour red has a strong affiliation with China and it has played an important role in Chinese culture for centuries. The colour remains significant to the Chinese today.  It is the primary colour on the flag of People’s Republic of China and is the dominant colour everywhere during the Lunar New Year.

**United Kingdom, Cass Sculpture Foundation Sculpture Park, Goodwood**

**A Beautiful Disorder, Until 6-11-2016**

The Foundation has commissioned 16 Chinese artists to participate in the “most extensive installation ever undertaken” on its 26-acre site, says the curatorial director Claire Shea. A Beautiful Disorder—the foundation’s first major show of commissions by international artists—is the result of almost two years of research and production overseen by Shea and her co-curators, Wenny Teo from the Courtauld Institute, London, and Ella Liao from the Rockbund Art Museum, Shanghai. The title comes from a 1743 letter by the French Jesuit missionary and court painter to the Chinese emperor, Jean-Denis Attiret, who gave an enthusiastic account of the imperial gardens’ irregular design. The quote takes on a political edge in the exhibition, which includes Zheng Bo’s yellow, red and green flowerbed spelling out the 1950s propaganda slogan “Socialism is good” and Song Ta’s “Why Do They Never Take Colour Photos?” (2016), a fiberglass copy of a sculpture of young Chairman Mao.

**United Kingdom, London**

**Asian Art in London 2016, 03-11-2016-12-11-2016**

This year’s edition of the annual event, in which specialist art dealers team up with auction houses and academic and cultural institutions to underscore London's pre-eminence in the world of Asian art. Featured are exhibitions, auctions, lectures, open evenings and receptions. A sample is presented of the selection of Asian antiques from India, Islam, China, Japan, the Himalayas and Korea, spanning some 5000 years of culture - including ceramics, furniture, glass, jade, jewellery, manuscripts, metalwork, paintings, screens, stone carvings and textiles.

**United Kingdom, London, British Museum**

**Courting to contract love and marriage in Iran, Until 20-11-2016**

Small display celebrating the traditions associated with love, courtship and marriage in Iran and neighbouring regions. In the display, love and courtship are explored through drawings, illustrated manuscript pages and objects, depicting intimate scenes and classical Persian accounts of celebrated romances. Illuminated Persian marriage contracts (ghabaleh), along with a Judaeo-Persian example (ketubbah) and an Old Babylonian contract carved onto a clay tablet, reflect the legal and social aspects of marriage and its roots in ancient tradition. The works are complemented by a number of richly embroidered textiles, including wedding garments and accessories. Dating mainly between the 1500s and the 20th century, these objects situate love and marriage within the histories, narratives and contexts of people from the Middle East and Central Asia. ‘A heart without love is a body without a soul. A soul lives forever because of love.’ Thus wrote the Persian poet, scholar and mystic, Jami (1414–1492), on love – of all subjects, perhaps the most universal to humankind. In Persianate culture, the theme of love has permeated literature, art and music for thousands of years.

**United Kingdom, Oxford, Ashmolean Museum**

**Pure Land, Images of Immortals in Chinese Art, Until 02-10-2016**

Exhibition about ‘Pure Land’ the name for the realm of the Buddha and other deities depicted in paintings since the Tang dynasty (AD 618?906). Pure Land Buddhism is particularly associated with the cave temples at Dunhuang in northwest China, near the eastern end of the Silk Route. During China’s war with Japan in the 1940s, many artists took refuge in Sichuan province, and from there some journeyed to Dunhuang and painted copies of the famous cave temple murals. This display shows rare examples of their work alongside other images of popular deities, particularly Guanyin, in paintings, textiles and porcelain.

**United Kingdom, Oxford, Ashmolean Museum**

**Monkey Tales, Apes and Monkeys in Asian Art, Until 30-10-2016**

Display celebrating the Year of the Monkey in 2016 presenting images of adventurous and mischievous monkeys in works on paper from Iran to Japan. The display features papercuts, woodblock prints and lithographs of monkeys in the wild, monkeys as gods, and scenes from the famous 16th-century Chinese novel.

**United Kingdom, Oxford, Ashmolean Museum**

**Liu Dan: New Landscapes and Old Masters, 20-10-2016-26-02-2017**

Exhibition of works by one of China’s leading artists Liu Dan (b. 1953), who was at the forefront of the generation of painters who have been working in radically new ways in the traditional medium of ink. He combines themes current since the Song dynasty using his own techniques derived from 14th-century artists. His paintings are meticulous, and very often huge in scale. Liu Dan is equally interested in Italian drawing of the 14th to 16th centuries as much as their Yuan and Ming dynasty contemporaries, and aspects of their work are subsumed in his. The show includes a landscape presented by Liu Dan to the Ashmolean in memory of the great historian of Chinese art, Professor Michael Sullivan (1916–2013).

**United Kingdom, Oxford, Ashmolean Museum**

**Power and Protection, Islamitic Art and the Supernatural, 20-10-2016-15-01-2017**

Major exhibition exploring the supernatural in the art of the Islamic world and showcasing over a hundred spectacular objects from Morocco to China. Within Islamic societies, people of all backgrounds have engaged in fascinating and sometimes controversial practices such as the casting of horoscopes and the interpretation of omens. The objects and works of art in this exhibition – which date from the 12th to the 20th centuries – have been used as sources of guidance and protection in both the private sphere and in dramatic events such as battles and royal births. Amongst the displays are astrological charts, dream-books, talismanic clothing and jewel-encrusted amulets.

**United Kingdom, Oxford, Ashmolean Museum**

**Hiroshige's View of Mount Fuji, 15-11-2016-26-03-2017**

Exhibition highlighting prints from several different series and in different formats all depicting Mount Fuji. Mount Fuji has long been praised by poets and depicted by artists for its beautiful shape and sacred status. Japanese artist Utagawa Hiroshige (1797–1858) created numerous views of Mount Fuji over the course of his career, depicting the mountain in different seasons and from a variety of viewpoints.

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**AUCTIONS AND FAIRS:**

**In the Netherlands**

**1 - 15 November 2016 | Auction art and antiques, De Zwaan Amsterdam**

Viewing days: 27 - 30 October 2016

For more information: <http://www.dezwaan.nl>

**16 - 18 November 2016 | Auction art and antiques, Venduehuis Den Haag**

Viewing days: 10 - 14 November 2016

Viewing days: <http://www.venduehuis.com>

**20 - 27 November 2016 | PAN Amsterdam**

The contemporary fair for art, antique and design

Open daily 11.00-19.00, 22 November 11:00- 21.00,

24 and 27 November until 18.00.

Location: Europaplein 20, 1078 Amsterdam

For more information: <http://www.pan.nl>

**28 November 2016 | The Asian Art Sale, AAG**

Viewing days 25-27 November 2016

For more information: <http://www.veilinghuisaag.com>

**6 December 2016 | Indonesisian paintings, Zeeuws Veilinghuis Middelburg**

For more information: <http://www.zeeuwsveilinghuis.eu>

**International**

**3 - 17 November 2016 | Christie’s Londen King Street**

*Edo to Postwar: 500 Years of Japanese Art and Design* (online only)

For more information: [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com)

**29 November 2016 | Bonhams Hong Kong**

Fine Chinese Painting and Southeast Asian Art

For more information: [www.bonhams.com](http://www.bonhams.com)

**29 November 2016 | Bonhams Hong Kong**

Images of Devotion-including Masterpieces from the Collection of Ulrich von Schroeder

For more information: [www.bonhams.com](http://www.bonhams.com)

**29 November 2016 | Bonhams Hong Kong**

Fine Chinese Ceramics and Works of Art

For more information: [www.bonhams.com](http://www.bonhams.com)

**9 & 10 December 2016 | Nagel Stuttgart**

*Asian Art*

Viewing days: 6 - 8 December 2016

For more information: [www.auction.de](http://www.auction.de)

**9 & 10 December 2016 | Lempertz Keulen**

*Asiatische Kunst*

For more information: [www.lempertz.com](http://www.lempertz.com)

**14 December 2016 | Christie’s Parijs**

*Asian Art*

Viewing days: 10,12 & 13 December 2016

For more information: [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com)

**15 December 2016 | Sotheby’s Parijs**

*Art d’Asie*

Viewing days: 10 - 14 december 2016

For more information: [www.sothebys.com](http://www.sothebys.com)

**16 December 2016 | Christie’s Londen King Street**

*Japanese Art*

Viewing days: 16 - 21 September 2016 and 8 - 10 October 2016

For more information: [www.christies.com](http://www.christies.com)