

Cincinnati Asian Art Society

2023-2024 Programs

All Programs at the Taft Museum of Art this year*

The Damascus Room at CAM: A Fascinating Journey to 18th century Damascus

Sunday September 17, 2023

Free Public Program

2:00 PM at the Taft Museum of Art

3:00 PM Reception

The elaborately embellished walls and ceiling paneling of the Damascus Room once adorned splendid interiors of private residences in the Old City of Damascus, Syria. Anke Scharrahs will explain the details, the historic context and the decorative techniques of these rooms that were used as reception rooms for guests.

How I Met the Marbling Muse on the Road to Immortality

Sunday October 29, 2023

Free Public Program

2:00 PM at the Taft Museum of Art

3:00 PM Reception

In her talk, author and artist Diane Maurer- Mathison will discuss how her books, demonstrations and teaching led her to be recognized by the Metropolitan Museum of Art where forty of her traditional marbled papers and Japanese Suminagashi designs are permanently preserved. After the talk, Diane will demonstrate Suminagashi marbling on paper using Boku Undo marbling colors. This program is jointly sponsored by the Cincinnati Book Arts Society. CAAS members are invited to register for Diane's workshop on Sat. Oct. 28 from 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM on Suminagashi (Japanese marbling) & Orizomegami (Japanese Fold & Dye on paper). More information to come.

8th Annual Asian Art Lecture: The Kailasanatha Temple in Kanchipuram: Meaning in Material Form

Sunday November 12, 2023

Free Public Program

2:00 PM at the Taft Museum of Art

3:00 PM Reception

The Kailasanatha temple complex, constructed about 700-728 CE by men and women of the Pallava Dynasty in Kanchipuram, reveals much about thought-worlds of the ancient Indic south. The material elements of this complex fit together like the pieces of an elegant puzzle to articulate nurturing, fertile energies and triumph over threats from outside and within. This monument encourages both modes of being, holding them in dialog and revealing them through secret and public signs.

A Collector's Dream: Chinese Porcelains and Enamels in the Taft Museum of Art

Sunday January 21, 2024

Free Public Program

2:00 PM at the Taft Museum of Art

3:00 PM Reception

Museum founders Charles and Anna Taft began collecting Chinese porcelain intensively in 1902, eventually acquiring over 200 stunning works of art from the Ming and Qing dynasties. Over one hundred years later, in 2014, the museum received nearly 90 Chinese painted enamels, making it one of the largest known public collections in the world. Learn about these two strengths of the Taft's Chinese art collection in this talk by Ann Glasscock, Taft Museum of Art Curator.

Kimono: A Demonstration and Celebration of Japanese People's Lives

Sunday February 4, 2024

Free Public Program

2:00 PM at the Taft Museum of Art

3:00 PM Reception

Japan's unique traditional clothing, the kimono, has evolved over the millennia. Innovative weaving techniques, dyeing processes and embroidery have raised kimono to an art form, both creating them and wearing them. Yoko Rosenthal, certified kimono master, will demonstrate how to wear a kimono and share how people wear kimono - and what kind of kimono they wear - throughout their lives, starting with baby's first visit to the shrine.

*Because of renovations at the Cincinnati Art Museum

Balinese Wayang Kulit (Shadow Puppetry) – “Suramaya”

Sunday March 24, 2024

Free Public Program

2:00 PM at the Taft Museum of Art

3:00 PM Reception

Back by popular demand – Dr. Jennifer Goodlander is happy to come and share her expertise in puppetry and culture from SE Asia! This time she will give a full performance, with time for questions and answers following. Most *wayang* in Bali tells tales from the great Indian epics – but this performance is from a new cycle of stories called *wayang tantri*. In this story a king is planning a big celebration and sends his clown-servants to the forest to collect the needed supplies... but the king of the forest, Suramaya, does not like this plan. Come experience the beautiful animal puppets of this dynamic story with an environmental message. Appropriate for all ages.

Conservation of East Asian Art at the Cincinnati Art Museum

Sunday April 28, 2024

Free Public Program

2:00 PM at the Taft Museum of Art

3:00 PM Reception

Cincinnati Art Museum conservators Kelly Rectenwald and Cecile Mear will describe treatments of objects and paintings from the museum’s East Asian art collection. Discussion of the conservation work will be augmented by comments by Hou-mei Sung, Curator of East Asian Art, as she discusses the significance of each of the works of art. See examples of objects that can be enjoyed by museum visitors as a result of the conservation treatments and hear how CAAS contributes to the care and conservation of this stellar collection.

9th Annual Asian Art Lecture: From Shanghai to Ohio: Woo Chong Yung 吳仲熊 (1898-1989)

Sunday May 19, 2024

Free Public Program

2:00 PM at the Taft Museum of Art

3:00 PM Reception

Woo Chong Yung (1899-1989) was an accomplished painter, calligrapher, and poet from Shanghai. In 1966, Woo emigrated to Columbus, Ohio right before the Cultural Revolution. The great majority of his lifetime works were collected exclusively in the Cincinnati Art Museum and the Otterbein University Museum. In this lecture, Hou-mei Sung will explore Woo’s unique position in Chinese painting history and how his emigrating from Shanghai to Ohio and becoming an American utterly transformed and reshaped both his life and painting.