

ASIAN ART in LONDON 2016

by Jasleen Kandhari

Asian Art in London (AAL) is now in its 19th year, and this autumn's event runs from 3 to 12 November. Asian Art in London this year has 48 dealers and galleries from the UK and overseas showcasing a range of works of art from South, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, China, Japan, Korea, the Himalayas and the Islamic world dating from antiquity to the contemporary, along with sales at the auction houses. Alongside the selling exhibitions, visitors can attend the plethora of museum exhibitions, lectures, gallery talks, study days, panel discussions and conferences which coincide with Asian Art in London week. The Late Night Openings start with Kensington Church Street on 5 November, St. James's on 6 November and Mayfair on 7 November, all are from 5-9pm. Not all galleries participate in these late night openings, so refer to the AAL booklet or website for individual details. The AAL directory includes maps and an events calendar and can be found in members' galleries or obtained from the Asian Art in London office, tel +44(0)20 7499 2215 or email info@asianartinlondon.com. The annual gala party is on 3 November at The China Exchange, entry by ticket only.

ALONGSIDE gallery shows, there are museum exhibitions and events which coincide with Asian Art in London week. The AAL symposium on *The Science of Art* takes place at the China Exchange in Soho on 9 November. There is a two day short course on *Classical Indian Paintings* at Christie's on 10 and 11 November, a study day on *Indian Textiles* at University of Oxford on 12 November and a panel discussion on *Chinese and Japanese Works of Art in the Collection of Her Majesty the Queen* at the Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, on 10 November.

At the British Museum there is the exhibition, *Courting to Contract: Love and Marriage in Iran* until 20 November in which love and courtship are explored through drawings, illustrated manuscript pages and objects, depicting intimate scenes and classical Persian accounts of celebrated romances along with embroidered wedding garments and accessories. The Victoria and Albert Museum displays their new acquisition of *obi* and *kimono* in *The Creative Genius of Kondaya Genbei X*, which opens on 8 November. Asia House presents *Vision and Revision: The Art of Chinese Woodblock Prints* which runs until 11 November whilst the Brunei Gallery (SOAS) presents, *Academics, Activists & Agents: A*

History of the School of Oriental and African Studies 1916-2016 until 17 December. Over at University of Oxford's Ashmolean Museum, there are three Asian art exhibitions entitled, *Power and Protection: Islamic Art and the Supernatural*, *Liu Dan: New Landscapes*, and *Old Masters and Hiroshige's Views of Mount Fuji*, all running into 2017.

LATE NIGHT OPENING

KENSINGTON CHURCH STREET

Saturday 5 November

Receptions at Gregg Baker Asian Art, Fleurdeyls Antiquités, Marchant, and Jorge Welsh Works of Art

Gregg Baker's exhibition this year, at 142 Kensington Church Street, is *Infinite Space, the New Japan*. For the first time, the gallery is presenting an exhibition devoted to seven prominent Japanese avant-garde artists and the work they created in the post-World War II art scene. At the end of the hostilities Japan was under great pressure to modernise and its artists' also needed to reinvent themselves and their art by exploring new visual forms while carefully preserving their ancestral cultural heritage. Suda Kokuta, Takeo Yamaguchi, Morita

Shiryu, Yuichi Inoue, Hisao Domoto, Ochi Kenzo and Tagashige Mori are among those artists for whom art is a mystical experience and its creation a vital daily practice. The lives and work of these men reflect a tireless search for an art of purity, sincerity and transcendence, deeply infused with influences of a culture obsessed with nature, form and texture along with an underlying aesthetic gained by the constant exposure to Buddhism and its philosophy.

Fleurdeyls Antiquités presents *The Art of Display* at 150 Kensington Church Street featuring Chinese works of art, wood stands and Chinese scholar's objects. Marchant is holding their *Kangxi Blue and White and Underglaze Copper-Red* exhibition at 120 Kensington Church Street, comprising 34 porcelain pieces in perfect condition in a variety of forms produced during the Kangxi period (1662-1722) including eight 'mark and period' pieces, several with copper red details arranged in chronological order. Highlights include the previously unknown form of Chinese blue and white underglaze red porcelain, the phoenix tail vase, *yan yan*, painted with the 'Eight Horses of Mu Wang' and an imperial Chinese porcelain blue and white and underglaze copper-red deep bowl, *wan*, painted with flora and fauna motifs, the base of which has a six-character reign mark of the Kangxi period. A catalogue is available.

In his 30th anniversary exhibition, Jorge Welsh is holding *A Time and a Place: Views and Perspectives on Chinese Export Art*, at 116 Kensington Church Street, focusing on landscape and architectural paintings in Chinese export art on porcelain, as well as paper, highlighted by a porcelain punch bowl depicting the London Hospital in Whitechapel.

LATE NIGHT OPENING

ST. JAMES'S

Sunday 6 November

Receptions at Atkis Gallery, Raquelle Azran Vietnamese Art, Rosemary Bandini, Joost van den Burgh, Brandt Asian Art, Cohen & Cohen, Rob Dean Art, Genrokuart, Malcolm Fairley, Peter Finer, MD Flacks, Grosvenor Gallery, Nicholas Grindley, Ben Janssens Oriental Art, Littleton & Hennessy, Mika Gallery Shouun Oriental Art, Simon Pilling, Priestley & Ferraro, Simon Ray Indian & Islamic Works of Art, Röell Fine Art, Runjeet Singh, Jacqueline Simcox, Hanga Ten, Grace Tsumugi Fine Art, and Jonathan Tucker & Antonia Tozer Asian Art.



Ivory netsuke of a rat by Masanao of Kyoto, circa 1780, length 5.5cm, height 4 cm, Rosemary Bandini



Ao Dai II (1996) by Hoang Tich Chu, 60 x 60 cm, Raquelle Azran



Silence, Work No. 5 (2003) by Katsunori Hamanishi (b 1949), diptych, mezzotint with gold leaf, edition of 50, 59 x 92 cm, Hanga Ten

Atkis Gallery presents an exhibition on modern and contemporary Chinese painting entitled *Chinese Black*, by Zao Wou-Ki and Wang Keping at 10-11 Park Place, whilst at the Grosvenor Gallery's new address on 32 St James's Street (first floor), the artists represented are Bakre, Ribeiro, Souza

in the exhibition, *Indian Modernist Landscapes 1950-1970*.

Raquelle Azran presents a group show at 6 Masons Yard, Duke Street of Vietnamese fine art entitled, *Vietnam Past and Presents*, contrasting earlier generations of Vietnamese artists in the epoch of French



Illustration to the *Shangri Ramayana Series*, Kulu or Bahu, circa 1700-1710, Rob Dean Art



Symbol of Infinite Space by Suda Kokuta (1906-1990), signed, titled and dated 1960-8-28 on the reverse, oil and mixed media on canvas, 91.5 x 65.5 cm, Gregg Baker



Chinese porcelain blue and white vase of baluster form, ping, Kangxi period, circa 1690, height 44.8 cm, Marchant