

# SEATTLE ASIAN ART MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS

SAAM always exhibits highlights from its collection of art from Asia and exhibitions featuring work on loan from local and international collections.



Indra, Nepal, 13th century, bronze set with semiprecious stones, 10 x 8 x 5 1/2 in., Eugene Fuller Memorial Collection, 51.101, Photo: Paul Macapia

## DISCOVERING BUDDHIST ART: SEEKING THE SUBLIME

July 10, 2003–Ongoing

Featuring artworks from SAM's permanent collection and private collections, this exhibition illustrates the spectacular development of Buddhist arts from India, China, Tibet, Indonesia, Thailand, Korea and Japan from the fourth to the eighteenth centuries.

A major series of programs and materials were offered in connection with the exhibition, including eight lectures by visiting scholars and curators, an education installation with video and interactive multimedia, print gallery guide, teacher materials and teacher workshops.

Two innovative gallery demonstrations of consecration rituals were held to show visitors how Buddhist art would have been used in its original ritual setting. Nishibu Hōshō of the Seattle Kōyasan Temple conducted ritual chanting to venerate the teaching of Amitabha Buddha (Buddha of Infinite Light), and Lama Gelong Lobsang Choephel, who was born in Tibet in 1924 and visited Seattle from his monastery in India, conducted a Tibetan Buddhist ritual.

Made possible in part by support from The Foster Foundation.

## TEXTURES OF DAILY LIFE: ART FROM JAPAN

July 10, 2003–Ongoing

On display in this exhibition are selected Japanese textile items from SAM's permanent collection focusing on two themes in sequence: *ikat* in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and firefighting jackets from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

## REFLECTIONS ON WATER: JAPANESE MODERN PRINTS AND PAINTINGS

July 10, 2003–February 15, 2004

Selected works from SAM's permanent collection and private collections were on display, illustrating how six modern artists express the beauty of waving silhouettes reflected on the surface of water.

The Blakemore Foundation Asian Art Lecture Series is made possible by the generous support of The Blakemore Foundation with additional funding provided by the museum's Asian Art Council.

## LI JIN: A FEAST

August 29, 2003–April 11, 2004

Li Jin's monumental handscroll takes visitors on a historic culinary tour of China, providing contemporary insights into the central role of food in Chinese culture.

Chinese artist Li Jin visited Seattle from Tianjin, China, to speak about his humorous monumental handscroll, *A Feast*, a fifty-nine-foot painting banquet for the eyes, which depicts the connection between food and sensuality in China past and present. In addition to speaking to SAM visitors and staff, Li Jin gave a talk to University of Washington students and faculty at the East Asia Center. The trip also gave him the opportunity to visit many local galleries, interact with the artists from the *Baja to Vancouver* exhibition and visit the homes of local collectors and Trustees.



Utagawa Toyokuni III, 1786–1864 *Dohyōiri* (Ring-Entering Ceremony) at *Kanjin-ozumo tournament*, ca. 1848, multicolor woodblock print on paper, 14 3/4 x 30 in., Donn F. Draeger Collection, T2003.249.39.1-3, photo: Paul Macapia

## LARGER THAN LIFE HEROES: PRINTS OF SUMO WRESTLING FROM THE DONN F. DRAEGER COLLECTION

February 21–August 29, 2004

Works from the late eighteenth century to the present presented various aspects of sumo as a traditional Japanese sport and entertainment. In addition to the woodblock prints from a private collection, scenes of sumo tournaments on video were shown in the gallery.

## KOREAN SENSIBILITIES: THE EVOLUTION OF FORM

April 24–October 31, 2004

Selected objects from twelfth-century metalware and ceramics to present-day screens and handicrafts were included in this exhibition.

## OUR VISION

A SIGNIFICANT RENOVATION will enable the Seattle Asian Art Museum to control the building climate often required to host MAJOR INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS. The Asian art collections will reflect GROWTH and a greater range of art, including contemporary work.