

ASIAN ART MUSEUM
Chong-Moon Lee Center
for Asian Art & Culture
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News



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OPENING WEEKEND
Yoga: The Art of Transformation
Asian Art Museum unveils special exhibition
with celebratory Opening Night Party, Yoga
Festival

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 14, 2014—The Asian Art Museum will celebrate its special exhibition *Yoga:*

The Art of Transformation on Friday, Feb. 21 and Saturday, Feb. 22 with a yoga-filled party and festival featuring performing artists MC Yogi and DJ Drez, acro-yoga demos, yoga classes, art making, storytelling, gallery tours and more.

On Friday, Feb. 21, MC Yogi and DJ Drez will kick-start the night with a sold-out yoga class for more than 150 people in the grand Samsung Hall from 7:30–8:30 p.m. Then visitors will dance the night away with the dynamic duo on the second floor while those on the first floor can chill with DJ Sol Rising as he infuses urban music with spiritual principles.

Throughout the museum from 7–8 p.m., revolutionary yoga instructors Jenny Sauer-Klein and Adam Rinder will blend yoga, acrobatics, performance and art called acro-yoga. From 8–9 p.m., the Dholrhythms dance troupe will bang through the night to traditional Punjabi folk music and dance in Non Stop Bhangra.

Visitors will have a first look at the exhibition *Yoga: The Art of Transformation* with the museum's knowledgeable and friendly docents, who will lead gallery tours at 7:45 p.m., 8:45 p.m. and 9:45 p.m. The Asian Art Museum Storytellers will examine select artworks from the exhibition and narrate lively stories at 7:15 p.m., 8:15 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Visitors should gather near the coat check in South Court for all tours.

The festivities continue with an all-day Yoga Festival on Saturday, Feb. 22 from 10:30 a.m.–4 p.m. Visitors can choose from one of three 90-minute yoga classes taught by top-notch instructors to open your minds in the museum's galleries. Classes will start at 10:30 a.m. when instructor Erica Jago introduces a compilation of practices inspired by

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several traditions of hatha yoga, yoga philosophy, Fourth Way teachings and the Handel Method; at 12:30 p.m. Jenny Sauer-Klein and Adam Rinder create a safe environment to explore trust, connection and playfulness through partner yoga on the ground and in the air as they create a safe environment for acro-yoga—no experience necessary. At 2:30 p.m. Stephanie Snyder teaches movement synchronized with breath in vinyasa yoga. Kids up to 12 years old can join the Kids Yoga class with instructor Chandra Ganguly in the Education Classroom at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. for a 45-minute class. The classes end with Laughter Yoga at 3 p.m., in which two certified Laughter Yoga instructors combine gentle yoga breathing, stretching and stimulated unconditional laughter.

Children and adults alike can partake in art making in North Court on the first floor from 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Activities include Community Rangoli, inviting participants to contribute to a large traditional Indian folk art design, and creating yoga posture cards (asana cards).

Curators of the museum's *Yoga* exhibition, Qamar Adamjee and Jeffrey Durham, discuss the ins and outs of the exhibition at 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Storytelling and gallery tours for children and adults are offered throughout the day to complement the visitor experience.

The festivities mark the opening of *Yoga: The Art of Transformation*, the first major exhibition to explore yoga and its historical transformation over the past 2,500 years through more than 130 rare and compelling artworks. The exhibition features objects from 25 museums and private collections in India, Europe and the United States, amounting to one of the most remarkable surveys of Indian art. Originally organized by the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, the exhibition is on view at the Asian Art Museum Feb. 21–May 25, 2014.

Yoga Opening Night Party

Friday, Feb. 21, 7–11 p.m.

- Tickets from \$15–\$20; ComboTicket discount available
- Yoga class is sold-out
- For a complete schedule and ticketing details, visit www.asianart.org/yoga

Yoga Festival

Saturday, Feb. 22, 10:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

- Tickets from \$15–\$32; ComboTicket discount available
- Additional fee for yoga class; space is limited
- For a complete schedule and ticketing details, visit www.asianart.org/yoga

ABOUT THE ASIAN ART MUSEUM

The Asian Art Museum—Chong-Moon Lee Center for Asian Art and Culture is one of San Francisco's premier arts institutions and home to a world-renowned collection of more than 18,000 Asian art treasures spanning 6,000 years of history. Through rich art experiences, centered on historic and contemporary artworks, the Asian Art Museum unlocks the past for visitors, bringing it to life while serving as a catalyst for new art, new creativity and new thinking.

Information: 415.581.3500 or www.asianart.org

Location: 200 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

Hours: The museum is open Tuesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. From Feb. 6 through Sept. 11, 2014, hours are extended on Thursdays until 9 p.m. Closed Mondays, as well as New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Admission for *Yoga: The Art of Transformation*: adults \$17; seniors, college students with ID, youth (13-17) \$13. Asian Art Museum members and children 12 and under are FREE. Thursday evenings after 5 p.m. is \$10. These prices include general admission. General admission is free the first Sunday of every month, thanks to Target Stores. (\$5 surcharge for *Yoga* applies. Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis.)

General Admission: FREE for museum members, \$12 for adults, \$8 for seniors (65+), college students with ID, and youths (13–17). FREE for children under 12 and SFUSD students with ID. General admission on Thursdays after 5 p.m. is \$5 for all visitors (except those under 12, SFUSD students, and museum members, who are always admitted FREE). General admission is FREE to all on Target First Free Sundays (the first Sunday of every month). A surcharge may apply for admission to special exhibitions.

Access: The Asian Art Museum is wheelchair accessible. For more information regarding access: 415.581.3598; TDD: 415.861.2035.

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