

ASIAN ART MUSEUM
Chong-Moon Lee Center
for Asian Art & Culture
www.asianart.org

200 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
T 415.581.3711
pr@asianart.org

Asian

News



PRESS CONTACTS:

Tim Hallman
415.581.3711
pr@asianart.org

Annie Tsang
415.581.3560
annietsang@asianart.org

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

First Look: Collecting Contemporary at the Asian Sept. 4–Oct. 11, 2015

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 25, 2015— Get a closer look into the Asian Art Museum's new special exhibition *First Look: Collecting Contemporary at the Asian* with its public programs. The museum opens the exhibition on the evening of Thursday, Sept. 3 with *First Look @ First Look*, featuring a conversation with *First Look* artists Manuel Ocampo and Chen Man. On Sept. 10, join artist collaborative Hughen/Starkweather (Amanda Hughen and Jennifer Starkweather) as they discuss their installation *Re:depiction*. Finally, don't miss the museum's annual Korea Day and Filipino American History Month Celebration. *First Look: Collecting Contemporary at the Asian* is the museum's first large-scale exhibition of 58 contemporary highlights from the museum's collection. Many on view for the first time, the artworks spark connections to Asia's histories and traditions with the immediacy of contemporary ideas.

IN-GALLERY TALKS & LECTURES

First Look @ First Look

Thursday, Sept. 3, 6–9 PM

Museum-wide, free with museum admission (\$5 after 5 PM)

Be the first to see our new exhibition *First Look: Collecting Contemporary at the Asian*. We've been collecting outstanding contemporary art for the past 15 years, and now we're ready to show off the highlights. The evening's centerpiece will be a conversation at 7 PM with *First Look* artists Manuel Ocampo and Chen Man, moderated by assistant curator of contemporary art Dr. Karin Oen. The museum will be buzzing with beats spun by Hakobo, and Museum Hack's team of renegade tour guides will convert all you museum naysayers into museum lovers.

MORE

Grab a refreshment at the cash bar, cast your eyes on *First Look*, fight “museum fatigue” with Museum Hack, and be inspired by contemporary artists' work and processes as described in their own words.

In-Gallery Talk with Hughen/Starkweather

Thursday, Sept. 10, 6:30–7:30 PM

Meet at the information desk, free with museum admission (\$5 after 5 PM)

Join artist collaborative Hughen/Starkweather (Amanda Hughen and Jennifer Starkweather) as they discuss their installation *Re:depiction*, part of the exhibition *First Look*. Originally commissioned for the Artists Drawing Club series in 2014, *Re:depiction* invited museum staff to describe an artwork from the museum's collection from memory. Without having seen these artworks, the artists created abstract works based only on the recordings of those interviews. Join the artists as well as interview participants—including curator Qamar Adamjee, storyteller Miriam Mills and museum librarian John Stucky—as they describe the experience, reflect on the process and discuss the original artworks in the collection galleries.

PERFORMANCES, DEMONSTRATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Korea Day

Celebration of Korean Art and Culture

Sunday, Sept. 20, 11 AM–4 PM

Museum-wide, free museum admission, courtesy of the Korea Foundation

Celebrate the richness of Korean culture—art, food, music, fashion and more—at the Asian Art Museum's 7th annual Korea Day. Enjoy live performances, gallery tours, art-making activities, food tastings and other experiences inspired by traditional and contemporary Korean culture.

This year, you'll meet Korean American artists, chefs and musicians who explore their identities through their work. For the festival's feature performance, classically trained duo KABAM, who interpret Korean folk music through a contemporary lens, will collaborate with a visual artist and electronic musician to create a unique multi-sensory experience. You can also view art by contemporary Korean artists in the special exhibition *First Look*, enjoy guided tours of the Korean art galleries and learn how tradition continues to impact modern life.

Filipino American History Month Celebration
Ugnayan Lahi: Weaving a Cultural Tapestry

Sunday, Oct. 5, 10:30 AM–4 PM

Museum-wide, free museum admission courtesy of Target

Our annual celebration of Filipino American heritage explores the past, present and future of Filipino art and culture in the Bay Area. This year's theme is "*Ugnayan Lahi*," the weaving of a cultural tapestry between generations. Longtime leaders and rising artists will share philosophies of community, art and language, reflecting on 400 years of Filipino American history. We'll also commemorate a significant milestone: Fifty years ago, the 1965 Immigration Act ended a restrictive quota system, sparking a surge of immigration that resulted in a vibrant Bay Area Filipino community. Leaders Mel Orpilla and Kae Hope Echiverri Ranoa (aka "Hopie") will emcee. Also don't miss works by Filipino artists Manuel Ocampo and Norberto Roldan in *First Look*.

"Target First Free Sundays" — free general admission on the first Sunday of every month and the family programs offered on that day — are made possible by Target.

Additional support for the Asian Art Museum's Filipino American History Month Celebration is generously provided by AARP.

TOURS

Docent Tours: *First Look*

Tuesdays-Sundays, Sept. 4–Oct. 11, 10:30 AM and 2 PM (45 minutes each)
Meet at the information desk, free with museum admission

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 AM to 5 PM. Hours are extended on Thursdays until 9 PM starting Feb. 26 through Oct. 8. Closed Mondays, as well as New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

General Admission: FREE for museum members, \$15 for adults, \$10 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 PM 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.

###