MINUTES
ASIAN ART COMMISSION and/or
SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
4:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 30, 2010
200 Larkin Street, San Francisco, California

Commissioners Present: Edwin L. Berkowitz  Martha Sam Hertelendy
Kathy Bissinger  C. N. Keating
Alexander D. Calhoun  David Y. Lei
Julia K. Cheng  Jane Chang Tom
Carmen Colet  Glenn Vinson
Elaine E. Connell  Doris M. Ward
Kenneth G. Docter  Judith F. Wilbur

Commissioners Absent: Asim Abdullah  Doris Shoong Lee
Barbara Mathews Brooks  Chong-Moon Lee
Selina Gaw Cha  Fred Levin
Dixon R. Doll  Maura Morey
Sarah P. Hambrecht  Leslie Tang Schilling
Vickie Johnston  Anthony Sun
Bill S. Kim

Asian Art Museum Foundation Trustees in Attendance:
Bob Ackerman (phone)  James D. Marver (phone)
Ellen Burstein Bauch  Kevin McCabe
Jane Dalisay, Ex Officio  Susan McCabe (Ex Officio)
Joan Danforth  Suno Kay Osterweis
Robert L. Duffy  Glenn Ramsdell
Joyce Hsu  Chuck Stockholm
Kristine Johnson  Doug Tilden
Tim Kahn  Susy Wadsworth
Michael Kim  Tom Woofter
Shyam Lal  Akiko Yamazaki (phone)
Alexandra Lenehan

Asian Art Museum Council in Attendance:
Matt Bissinger  Alexandra Caban
Joy Boatwright  Marjorie Grau (sp)

Also Present: Michael Chinnavaso  Mark McLoughlin
Deborah Clearwaters  Kristin Paine
Robin Groesbeck  Valerie Pechenik
Tim Hallman  Amory Sharpe
Erica Kesel  Ehler Spiedt
Michael Knight  Jay Xu
Forrest McGill  Laura Furney Hathhorn

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair David Lei called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. a quorum being present.
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2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the March 31, 2010 meeting were approved as written.

3. Vice Chair’s Report

David welcomed Commissioner Carmen Colet, who was attending her first official meeting, having recently been sworn-in by Mayor Newsom. Assistant Curator of Japanese Art Melissa Rinne presented the Art Hit: Japan’s Early Ambassadors to San Francisco, 1860-1927.

4. Director’s Report

Director Jay Xu reviewed news and events since the March 31 board meeting as well as projects in the works and forthcoming. He announce a generous gift from Trustee Bill Bowes to support a key initiative—Staff Professional Development—with a gift of $50,000 per year.

5. Development Report

Development Committee Chair Judy Wilbur and Development Director Amory Sharpe presented the outstanding news that the FY09-10 Annual Fund exceeded the goal by $258,000 for a total of $7.2 million. Additionally, the Director’s Campaign, launched in the beginning of the FY09-10 fiscal year, secured commitments totaling $5.7 million (about equally divided between pledges for the Annual Fund and for the SLRP initiatives), and the Legacy Giving program added $8 million to expected bequests! Judy expressed thanks and congratulations to all board members and other supporters for their contributions, and to the development committee and all the staff involved in the fundraising effort for their hard work!

6. Finance Report

Treasurer Ken Docter noted the Finance Committee and ad-hoc Strategic Advisory Committee had been busy in the last few months with the present challenges, including the City budget process. COO Mark McLoughlin went through the status of the current fiscal year and some of the preliminary numbers for the FY 10-11 city budget unfolding.

7. Consideration and Possible Action Items

a. Expression of Condolences to the Family of Honorary Commissioner Lee Herbst Gruhn


b. Approval of “The Yeh Collection Gift Agreement First Amendment”
WHEREAS, On January 21, 2003, the Asia Art Commission approved Resolution C03-005 approving, with appreciation, acceptance of the Max W. Yeh and The Yeh Tung 1999 Trust of the Yeh Collection; and

WHEREAS, At its May 10, 2010 meeting, the Acquisitions Committee heard a proposal to modify the Yeh collection gift agreement and agreed the committee had no opposition to recommend approval by the Commission; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Commission hereby approves the attached document entitled, “The Yeh Collection Gift Agreement First Amendment”; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commission authorizes the Director of the Museum to take all necessary steps to finalize and execute the First Amendment to the Yeh Collection Gift Agreement.

c. Objects Recommended for the Permanent Collection by the Director and Chief Curator for Acquisition Consideration by the Connoisseurs’ Council at its Annual Dinner on May 26, 2010

WHEREAS, The following objects have been fully researched by the Curators and the Conservators; and

WHEREAS, The Acquisitions Committee, upon the recommendation of the Director and the Chief Curator, recommends that any of the objects purchased at the Connoisseurs’ Council 2010 Annual Dinner be approved for the Permanent Collection; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Commission accepts into the Permanent Collection the objects purchased at the Connoisseurs’ Council 2010 Annual Dinner, with appreciation to the Connoisseurs’ Council for their generosity and support.

JAPAN

R2009.48
PAINTING
White robed Avalokiteshvara (Byakue Kannon), approx. 1350-1425
Japan; Nanbokucho period (1333-1392) or Muromachi period (1392-1573)
Hanging scroll; ink on silk
H. 68 5/8 in x W. 20 3/4 in (overall);
H. 34 7/8 in x W. 14 in (image)
Price: $150,000
Price after dealer donation: $75,000
Dealer: Joseph L. Brotherton

SOUTHEAST ASIA

R2010.29.1-.2
SCULPTURE
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The Hindu deity Vishnu riding a mythical bird, approx. 1800-1850
The demon king Ravana riding a mythical bird, approx. 1800-1850
North Bali
Colors and gold on wood

(1): H. 38 in x W. 19 1/2 in x D. 15 in
(2): H. 38 in x W. 18 1/4 in x D. 18 in

Price: €165,000 for the pair (approx. $225,000)
Price after dealer donation: $200,000
Dealer: Jaap Polak

**d. Acknowledgement of Acquisitions Committee Approval to Allocate 2009 General Acquisitions Fund Windfall Towards the Purchase of Objects Presented at the May 26, 2010 Connoisseur’s Council Annual Dinner**

WHEREAS, The museum received an unexpected bequest in 2009 of $100,000 earmarked for unrestricted general acquisitions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Commission acknowledges the Acquisitions Committees’ approval to allocate the 2009 bequest earmarked for unrestricted general acquisitions as needed and in addition to the accumulated funds raised by the Connoisseurs’ Council for acquisition of objects at the May 26, 2010 Connoisseurs' Council Annual Dinner.

**e. Ratification of Object Purchased for the Permanent Collection, Pre-Approved by the Acquisitions Committee and the Asian Art Commission on September 28, 2009 and October 27, 2009, Respectively, with Thanks to the Donor of Funds**

WHEREAS, The following objects were presented to the Acquisitions Committee for possible purchase on September 28, 2009; and

WHEREAS, The objects were identified by the Acquisitions Committee as pre-approved for accession into the Permanent Collection, subject to the availability of funding; and

WHEREAS, The Committee’s recommendation was subsequently approved by the Asian Art Commission on October 27, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Adequate funds were raised; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Commission hereby ratifies the acquisition of the following objects, with thanks to the donors of funds:

**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Dealer</th>
<th>Donors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009.25</td>
<td>Ceremonial bowl with Zoroastrian themes, approx. 1875</td>
<td>£12,500 (approx. $20,000)</td>
<td>Michael Brackman Ltd. (London)</td>
<td>Zarhosti Anjuman of Northern California, with additional funding from Rati Forbes, Betty N. Alberts, and members of the board of the Society for Asian Art in honor of Past President Nazneen Spliedt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WEST ASIA

2009.26
PAINTING
Yusuf sees Zulaykha as an old woman, page from a manuscript of *Yusuf and Zulaykha*, approx. 1600-1700
Iran
Opaque watercolors and gold on paper
H. 9 in x W. 5 1/2 in
Price: $6,000
Dealer: Shawn Ghassemi/Art Passages, Inc.
Donor of Funds: Paul and Kathleen Bissinger, Peter and Beverly Sinton, and general acquisitions fund

f. Acknowledgement of Object Purchased for the Permanent Collection Using Director’s Discretionary Spending Authority, With Thanks to the Donor of Funds

WHEREAS, The following object was purchased using the Director’s discretionary spending authority; and

WHEREAS, The object was fully researched by the Curators and the Conservators; and

WHEREAS, At the Director’s and the Chief Curator’s recommendation, the Acquisitions Committee recommends the object be accessioned into the Permanent Collection; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Commission approves accession of the following object into the Permanent Collection, with thanks to the donors of funds:

SOUTHEAST ASIA

R2010.4
ARMS AND ARMAMENT
Dagger handle in the shape of a demon, approx. 1750-1850
Indonesia; Bali
Ivory
H. 5 1/4 in x Diam. 1 3/4 in
Price: $17,000
Dealer: Thomas Murray, Asiatica-Ethnographica
Donors of Funds: William M. Brooks with additional funding from Betty and Bruce Alberts, Fred Levin and Nancy Livingston, Joan and M. Glenn Vinson Jr., Hok Pui and Sally Yu Leung, and an anonymous friend of the Asian Art Museum

g. Acknowledgement of Object Purchased for the Permanent Collection Using Curator’s Discretionary Spending Authority With Thanks to the Donor of Funds

WHEREAS, The following objects were purchased using the Curator’s discretionary spending authority; and

WHEREAS, The objects were fully researched by the Curators and the Conservators; and

WHEREAS, At the Director’s and the Chief Curator’s recommendation, the Acquisitions Committee recommends the objects be accessioned into the Permanent Collection; now,
therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Commission approves accession of the following objects into the Permanent Collection, with thanks to the donors of funds:

**KOREA**

R2010.10.1

CERAMICS

Ceremonial food offering dish, approx. 1825-1875

Korea

Glazed porcelain

H. 6 1/2 in x Diam. 8 1/4 in

Price: $3,000

Dealer: Vicki Shiba Asian Art

Donor of Funds: Frank S. Bayley, III

R2010.10.2

CERAMICS

Ceremonial food offering dish, approx. 1825-1875

Korea

Glazed porcelain

H. 4 in x Diam. 5 1/2 in

Price: $1,000

Dealer: Vicki Shiba Asian Art

Donor of Funds: Frank S. Bayley, III

**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

R2010.26

SCULPTURE

The third Buddhist council, approx. 1790-1800

Burma; Intended for Pahtodawgyi Temple ("Mingun Pagoda"), Mingun

Glazed terra-cotta

H. 9 in x W. 9 in x D. 1 1/2 in

Price: £1,650 (approx. $2,500)

Dealer: Michael Backman Limited

Source of Funds: General acquisitions fund ($1,500) with additional funding from an anonymous friend of the Asian Art Museum

**h. Gifts Recommended to be Accessioned into the Permanent Collection**

WHEREAS, The following objects have been offered as gifts to the Asian Art Museum; and

WHEREAS, Upon the recommendation of the Director and Chief Curator, the Acquisitions Committee recommends that the objects be accessioned into the Permanent Collection; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Commission approves accession of the objects into the Permanent Collection, with thanks to the Donors:
CHINA

R2010.23
PAINTING
*Mid Autumn*, 1995
By Chu Hing Wah (Chinese, born 1938)
Ink and colors on paper
H. 66 ¼ in x W. 38 1/8 in (overall) Donor: Yiqingzhai Foundation

JAPAN

R2009.41.1
BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS
*Kobeiki* (Journal of a Ship's Voyage to America), volume II, dated 1860
By Kimura Tetsuta (Japanese, 1830-1862)
Book enclosed in cloth-wrapped outer cover; ink on paper
H. 10 3/4 in x W. 7 5/8 in x D. 5/8 in Donor: Frank S. Bayley, III

R2009.60.2
PAINTING
*At Baker's Beach*, dated July 16, 1922
By Chiura Obata (Japanese, 1885–1975)
Watercolors on paper
H. 11 in x W. 15 3/4 in (image) Donor: The Obata Family

SOUTHEAST ASIA

R2010.17.2
PAINTING
The Buddha in Indra's heaven, approx. 1825-1875
Thailand
Pigments and gold on paper
H. 16 1/4 in x W. 26 7/8 in (image) Donor: William Fries, II

WEST ASIA

R2009.24.1
PAINTING
Page from a manuscript of *Yusuf and Zulaykha*, approx. 1600-1700
Iran
Ink and gold on paper
H. 9 in x W. 5 1/2 in Donor: George Helleyer

i. **Object Currently in the Foundation Collection Recommended for Upgrading to the Permanent Collection**
WHEREAS, The following object was accepted into the Foundation Collection on September 26, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Upon the recommendation of the Director and Chief Curator, the Acquisitions Committee recommends that the objects be accessioned into the Permanent Collection; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Commission approves the object for accession into the Permanent Collection:

CHINA

F2005.41
PAINTING
Grapevines, 1982
By Zhu Qizhan (Chinese, 1892-1996)
Ink and colors on paper
H. 139 1/2 in x W. 56 in (image);
H. 192 in x W. 74 1/4 in (overall)  Donor: San Francisco Arts Commission

Objects Currently in the Foundation Collection Recommended for Upgrading to the Permanent Collection

WHEREAS, The following objects were accepted into the Foundation Collection on December 31, 2009 as year-end gifts for the calendar year 2009; and

WHEREAS, Upon the recommendation of the Director and Chief Curator, the Acquisitions Committee recommends that the objects be accessioned into the Permanent Collection; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Commission approves the objects for accession into the Permanent Collection:

JAPAN

F2009.42
CERAMICS
Teabowl with design of grasses, 1940-1973
By Bernard Leach (British, 1887-1979)
Incised porcelain with pale blue-green glaze
H. 2 1/2 in x Diam. 6 3/8 in  Donor: Naomi Lindstrom

F2009.61.1
PRINTS AND DRAWINGS
Setting Sun on Sacramento Valley, California, U.S.A, 1930
By Chiura Obata (Japanese, 1885-1975)
Woodcut print; ink and colors on paper  Donor: Stephen A. Sherwin and Merrill Randol
H. 18 in x W. 13 1/8 in  Sherwin
F2009.61.2
PRINTS AND DRAWINGS
*El Capitan: Yosemite National Park, California*, 1930
By Chiura Obata (Japanese, 1885-1975)
Woodcut print; ink and colors on paper  
H. 18 in x W. 13 1/8 in  
Donor: Stephen A. Sherwin and Merrill Randol Sherwin

**SOUTH ASIA**

F2009.44.2
TEXTILES
Robe, 1890-1920
India; former kingdom of Nabha, Punjab state
Silk and metal-wrapped thread
H. 44 1/2 in x W. 67 1/4 in  
Donor: T.S. Khanna and Jogi Khanna

F2009.44.4.1-.2
TEXTILES
Robe and vest, 1890-1920
India; former kingdom of Nabha, Punjab state
Silk and metal-wrapped thread
H. 47 1/2 in x W. 66 in (.1);
H. 18 1/8 in x W. 20 in (.2)  
Donor: T.S. Khanna and Jogi Khanna

F2009.50
PAINTING
Shiva and family, consisting of Parvati, Ganesha, and Kartikeya preparing soma on Mount Kailasha, approx. 1800
India; Himachal Pradesh, Kangra or Guler
Opaque watercolors on paper  
H. 9 7/8 in x W. 7 1/4 in (image)  
Donor: Stephen A. Sherwin and Merrill Randol Sherwin

**SOUTHEAST ASIA**

F2009.62
TEXTILES
Shoulder cloth, 1850-1950
Indonesia; Padang, Magek, Sumatra
Silk, gold and silver wrapped thread  
H. 19 in x W. 109 in  
Donor: Stephen A. Sherwin and Merrill Randol Sherwin

\[k.\] Approval of Loan No.: OL2010.2 to the Art Gallery of Ontario from November 20, 2010 – February 27, 2011

WHEREAS, The Art Gallery of Ontario, Canada (AGO) has requested to borrow three objects listed below for the exhibition Maharaja: The Splendor of India’s Court Arts to be held at the
AGO November 20, 2010 – February 27, 2011.

2006.4
PAINTING
The Mughal emperor Aurangzeb holding an audience
India; Udaipur; Rajasthan state; former kingdom of Mewar
Approx. 1710-1720
Opaque watercolors and gold on paper

1998.61
DECORATIVE ARTS
Decorated box owned by Maharaja Ranjit Singh
India; Gujarat state; Pakistan; Sindh province
Approx. 1660-1700
Wood inlaid with ivory and tortoiseshell

2005.64.159
PHOTOGRAPHY
Delhi Coronation Durbar 1st January 1903
by Wiele and Klein
India; Delhi
1903
Photographs on paper in a leather-bound album

WHEREAS, The Chief Curator recommends the loan to the Art Gallery of Ontario, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Asian Art Commission approves Loan No. OL2010.2 to the Art Gallery of Ontario.

9. Public Comment

Members of the public were invited to address the Commission on items that were within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Asian Art Commission. The public may address the Commission for up to three minutes and the Chair may limit total testimony to thirty minutes. Members of the public present did not wish to comment. There being no outside members of the public present, no public comment was made.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.