

**MINUTES**  
**Asian Art Commission – Ethics Committee**  
**Tuesday, October 28, 2014, 3:00 - 4:00 pm**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Floor Executive Conference Room**  
**Asian Art Museum, 200 Larkin Street, San Francisco, California**

**Present:** Alexander D. Calhoun, Chair  
Anthony Sun  
Jane Tom

**Absent:** Selina Gaw Cha

**Others Present:** Tianlogn Jiao  
Forrest McGill  
Kim Bush Tomio  
Laura Hathhorn

**Call to Order**

Chair Alexander D. Calhoun called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m., a quorum being present.

Minutes from the April 22, 2014 Ethics Committee meeting were approved.

Mr. Calhoun introduced discussions regarding an exhibition currently on display, an upcoming gallery rotation/display, and a 2016 exhibition – each involving loans from individuals who serve on the board or a committee: *Tradition on Fire: Contemporary Japanese Ceramics from the Paul and Kathy Bissinger Collection* from August 19, 2014 – April 5, 2014; *Past and Future: Works from the Tang Collection* (working title) from March 3 to November 1, 2015; and *The Rama Epic: Hero, Heroine, Ally, Foe* (working title) from October 2016 – January 2017 (dates to be confirmed).

Mr. Calhoun, as Ethics Committee chair, explained that Director of Museum Services Kim Bush Tomio approached him during the summer to explain her concern that the Ethics Committee had not been notified in advance for approval of the Bissinger ceramics exhibition, noting that when she first joined the museum staff in 2012 that she had not realized that Mrs. Bissinger was a member of the board. Mr. Calhoun explained that he, in his role as chair of the committee, gave his approval on behalf of the committee with the intention of addressing the committee when they next met and to ask for their agreement.

Ms. Tomio and Curator of Chinese Art Tianlong Jiao presented regarding loans for the Tang Family collection display involving board member Leslie Tang Schilling.

Wattis Curator of South and Southeast Asian Art Forrest McGill presented regarding loans an Rama exhibition planned for October 2016 referencing lenders board member Judith F. Wilbur and Acquisitions Committee member Gurshuran Sidhu.

Mr. Calhoun referenced Section 8.0 (Loans) of the museum's Ethical Stewardship and Collections Management Policy governing exhibitions involving loans from individuals, highlighting two important policy items related to the proposed exhibition: (i) the purpose of the exhibition is to further the purposes and activities of the museum, and (ii) the museum shall retain control of the selection of objects, their presentation and the way the show is presented. It was also noted that the exhibitions and gallery rotation/display would not be intended to enhance the value of the collection/objects loaned so that the owner could profit thereby. Following thorough discussion, the committee unanimously acknowledged that the proposed exhibitions and gallery rotation/display from individual private collections were in compliance

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with the museum's Ethical Stewardship and Collections Management Policy, and granted approval in that regard.

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 Ethics Committee. The public may address the Committee for up to three minutes and the chair may limit total testimony to thirty minutes.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.