

ENGLISH

Visitor Guide



Welcome to the Asian Art Museum

Awe-inspiring artworks ranging from ancient jades to contemporary installations immerse you in the magnificent artistic achievements and intriguing history of the world's most populous continent and its diaspora.

Tailor Your Visit

COLLECTION GALLERIES

The heart of the Asian Art Museum is its world-class collection of more than 20,000 artworks. Explore a rotating selection of more than 2,000 objects on the second and third floors. We recommend starting on the third floor in Gallery 1, dedicated to early works from South Asia.

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

Temporary exhibitions spotlighting an artist or theme offer unique viewpoints and rare opportunities to discover outstanding works on loan from other museums and private collections. Find special exhibitions on the first floor in the Yang Yamazaki Pavilion, Osher Foundation Gallery, Hambrecht Gallery, and Lee Gallery, and in the Tateuchi Gallery on the second floor. Check lobby screens to find out what's on view.

SPECIAL COMMISSIONS

Visit the Fang Family Launchpad (second floor in the Jerome and Thao Dodson Loggia) and the Lawrence and Gorretti Lui Hyde Street Art Wall (Hyde Street, on building exterior) to find a rotating selection of site-specific works commissioned from contemporary artists.

GUIDED TOURS

Get more out of your visit with a lively and informative tour led by a docent. Inquire at the information desk about the tour schedule.

MOBILE GUIDE

Enhance your visit with our self-guided multimedia tours. Explore the art of meditation, contemporary art, and museum masterpieces with ASL and descriptive audio, available on the free Asian Art Museum app. Use the QR code to download today.



HANDS-ON PROJECTS

Learn by doing! Get creative with self-directed, hands-on activities inspired by special exhibitions in the Shriram Learning Center.

TASTE

Relax and refresh with tantalizing flavors from across Asia and its diaspora at our partner restaurant Asian Box.

SHOP

Head to our Cha May Ching Museum Boutique for an expertly curated selection of items sourced from across Asia and from local artisans, plus an unparalleled selection of books about Asia and Asian art.

SNAP AND SHARE #MuseumDifferently @AsianArtMuseum

We encourage taking photos for your personal use (unless otherwise marked), and be sure to share your experience on social media. (Please, no flash, selfie sticks, or tripods.)

PROGRAMS

Offerings include regularly-scheduled Family Fun Days, art-making activities for kids, and performances and workshops for all ages. Inquire at the information desk or visit asianart.org.

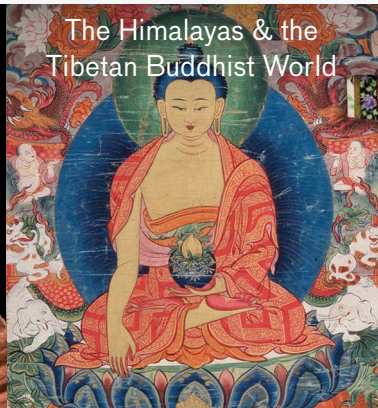
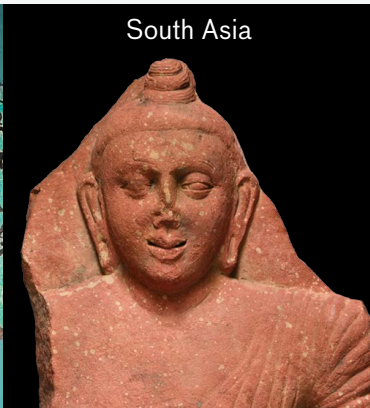
GROUP VISITS

Groups enjoy discounted admission and express entry into the museum, as well as the option of a private docent tour. For more information or to reserve, visit the information desk or about.asianart.org/group-visits.

Discover the Diverse Cultures of Asia



Find works from these regions and the global Asian diaspora in our galleries.





China



Southeast Asia



Korea



Japan



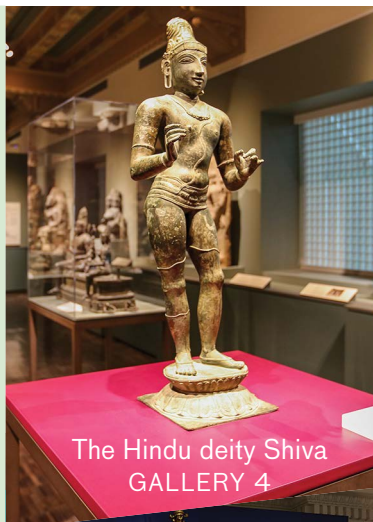
FIND
YOUR
OWN
PATH

Short on Time?

Discover exceptional works — singled out for their rarity, beauty, or historical significance — by following the path of masterpieces through our collection galleries.



The Buddha
triumphing over Mara
GALLERY 2



The Hindu deity Shiva
GALLERY 4



Cup with calligraphic
inscriptions
GALLERY 5



The Hindu deity Vishnu
GALLERY 9



Crowned and bejeweled
Buddha image and throne
GALLERY 11



The Buddhist
deity Simhavaktra,
a *dakini*
GALLERY 12



Ritual vessel in the
shape of a rhinoceros
GALLERY 14

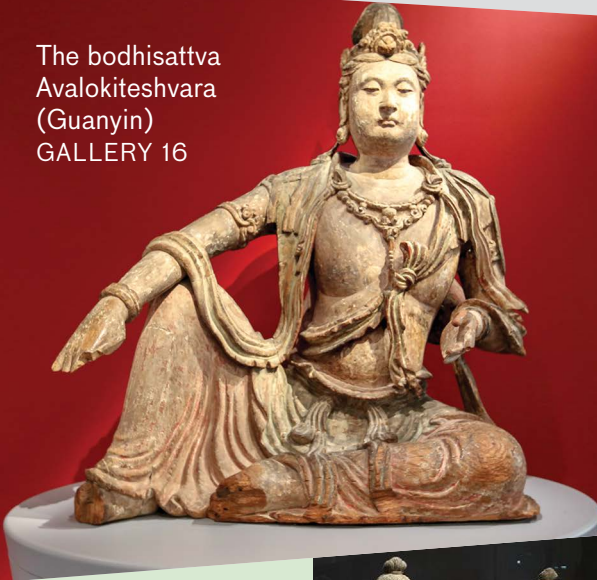


Buddha dated 338 C.E.
GALLERY 16



Lidded jar with design
of a lotus pond
GALLERY 17

The bodhisattva
Avalokiteshvara
(Guanyin)
GALLERY 16



Ewer with
lotus-shaped lid
GALLERY 21



Moon jar
GALLERY 23



The deities Brahma and Indra
(Bonten and Taishakuten)
GALLERY 26

Want More?

Take a self-guided tour
of 55 highlights from
our collection. Get
the Asian Art Museum
app on your phone.





FIND
YOUR
OWN
PATH

Visiting with Kids?

Pick up a **Draw with Reina Activity Pack** at the information desk to sketch or doodle in the galleries.

Take a closer look at artworks in the collection galleries with our **Art Cards**; borrow them from the information desk. Available in English and Chinese.

Take a family selfie with **Reina**, our 3,000-year-old bronze rhino (Gallery 14).

Get hands-on and express yourself in the **Shriram Learning Center** (first floor).

Dragon, turtle, pumpkin, or mouse? Find your favorite **Japanese miniature carving (netsuke)** (Gallery 27).

Are you here on a First Sunday? Then you're in for a **Family Fun Day!** On Family Fun Days, myths and tales from Asia come alive with storytelling in the galleries, followed by hands-on art activities. Check lobby screen for details.

FIND
YOUR
OWN
PATH

Looking for Contemporary Art?

Explore a rotating selection of modern and contemporary works from the collection in the **Hambrecht Contemporary Gallery** (first floor).

Head to the Dodson Loggia for **Liu Jianhua's *Collected Letters*** and **Afruz Amighi's *My House, My Tomb*** in the Fang Family Launchpad (second floor).

Check out murals on the **Lui Art Wall** to see what makes local artists tick (Hyde Street, on building exterior).

Let our curators lead the way with our **Contemporary Art mobile guide tour**. Download the tour from the free Asian Art Museum app.





FIND
YOUR
OWN
PATH

Into Architecture?

Be awed by the **Wilbur Grand Staircase**, the centerpiece of our historic Beaux-Arts building, designed in 1917 as the city's main public library.

Take in the elegantly coffered ceiling of lofty **Samsung Hall**, which formerly housed the library's card catalogue (second floor).

Relax in the airy and spacious **Bogart and Bowes Courts**, designed by Italian architect Gae Aulenti of Musée d'Orsay fame. She remodeled the former library to be the home of the Asian Art Museum in 2003 (first floor).

Head over to Hyde Street to see the dynamic faceted exterior of architect Kulapat Yantrasast's striking 2020 addition, the **Akiko Yamazaki and Jerry Yang Pavilion**.

FIND
YOUR
OWN
PATH

Want to Chill?

Cultivate calm with our **Meditative Art mobile guide**, available on the free Asian Art Museum app.

Take a moment of tranquility in the **Betty Bogart Contemplative Alcove** (second floor).

Grab a seat to relax and keep your hands busy with an art project in the **Shriram Learning Center** (first floor).





Become a Member

Apply today's ticket price toward a membership and enjoy free admission all year long.

The benefits of an Asian Art Museum membership include free unlimited admission, invitations to virtual and in-person member events and programming, and discounts on dining at Asian Box, parking at the UC Law Garage, and at the Cha May Ching Museum Boutique.

To join, stop by the membership desk or the boutique; contact Member Services at 415.581.3740 or learn more online at give.asianart.org.

A Museum for All

We strive to be accessible and welcoming to all.

- **Trained guide and service animals** are welcome.
- **Foldable, portable stools** are available for use in the galleries.
- **Braille floor plans** are available at the information desk.
- **Complimentary tablets are available to access audio descriptions and an American Sign Language (ASL) tour** of the museum's masterpieces from the information desk.
- **Large-print labels** are provided in special exhibition galleries.
- **Request Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs) for daily tours** from your docent.
- For any other preferences, please ask at the information desk.
- Visit our website for a complete list of our accessibility initiatives.

While You're Here

- The art should touch you — not the other way around. **Please admire without touching.**
- **Please no food or drinks in the galleries.**
- **Enjoy the moment by silencing cell phones** and refraining from phone conversations in the galleries.
- **We encourage you to take and share photos of your visit** for personal use only. Please no flash, selfie-sticks, or tripods — they can disturb other visitors and damage the art.
- We love when our visitors **sketch in the galleries** — please draw or take notes with pencils. Only have pens? Pencils are available at the information desk, where you may also pick up a **Draw with Reina Activity Pack.**
- **Have fun with little ones.** Strollers are allowed in the galleries, but you may be asked to park your stroller when the museum is crowded. Flip back a couple of pages for family-friendly activities.
- **You may be photographed or filmed by museum staff during your visit.** We may use these images in online or printed museum materials. Parents of minors will be asked for permission before filming.



At a Glance

THIRD FLOOR

Collection Galleries:

- South Asia (1–5)
- Sikh Gallery (6)
- The Persian World and West Asia (7)
- Southeast Asia (8–11)
- The Himalayas and the Tibetan Buddhist World (12)
- C.V. Starr China Galleries (13–16)



SECOND FLOOR

Collection Galleries:

- C.V. Starr China Galleries (17–20)
- Korea (21–23)
- Tateuchi Gallery (Special Exhibitions) (24)
- Tateuchi Japanese Galleries (25–31)

Samsung Hall

Dodson Loggia:

- Fang Family Launchpad – Afruz Amighi's *My House, My Tomb*
- Liu Jianhua's *Collected Letters*



FIRST FLOOR

Special Exhibition Galleries:

- Yang Yamazaki Pavilion
- Wilbur Gallery
- Lee Gallery
- Osher Gallery

Hambrecht Gallery

Shriram Learning Center

Koret Education Center

Cha May Ching Museum Boutique

Dining (Asian Box)

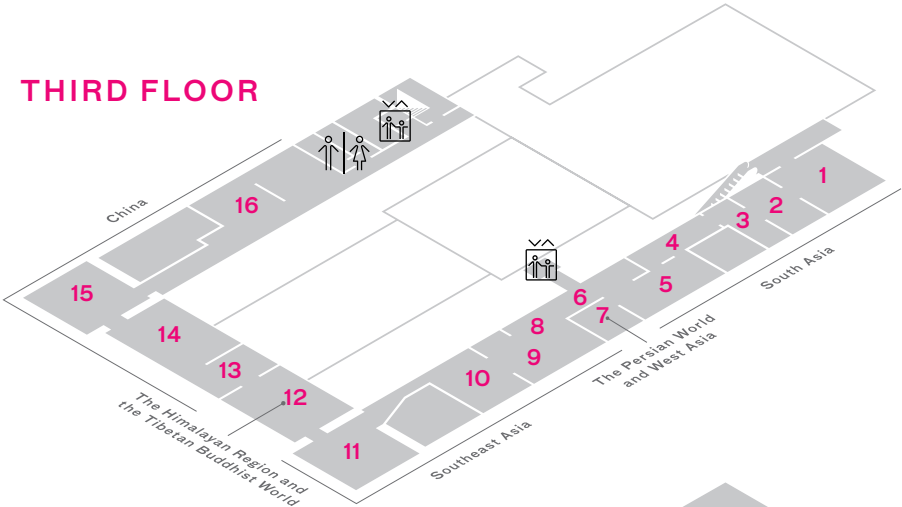


EXTERIOR

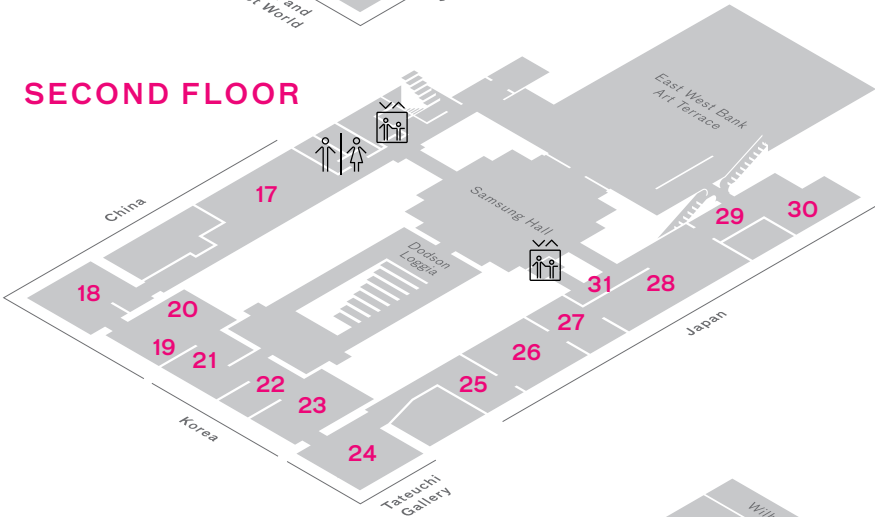
Lui Art Wall (Hyde Street)

Osher Plaza

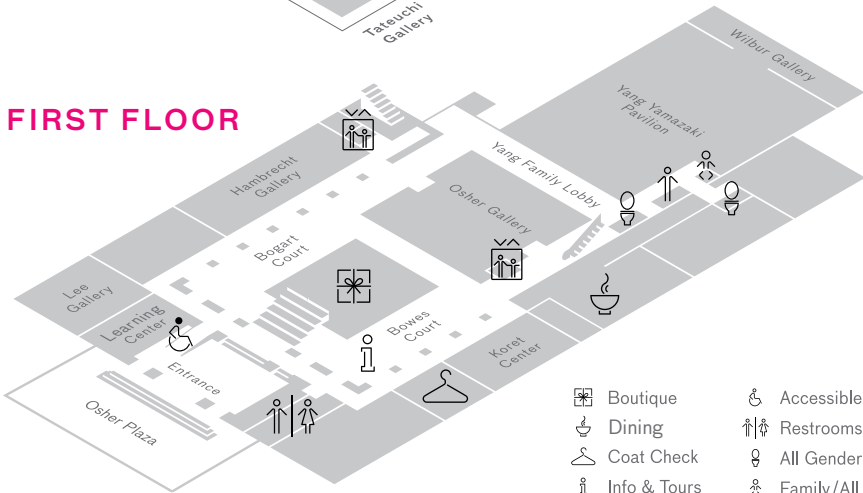
THIRD FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



- | | | | |
|--|--------------|--|----------------------------|
| | Boutique | | Accessible Ramp |
| | Dining | | Restrooms |
| | Coat Check | | All Gender Restroom |
| | Info & Tours | | Family/All Gender Restroom |
| | Elevator | | |

The Asian Art Museum celebrates, preserves, and promotes Asian and Asian American art and cultures for local and global audiences. We provide a dynamic forum for exchanging ideas, inviting collaboration, and fueling imagination to deepen understanding and empathy among people of all backgrounds.



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

200 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA
94102
T 415.581.3500

Thu: 1 PM–8 PM | Fri–Mon: 10 AM–5 PM
Tue–Wed: Closed. Thursdays in December: 10 AM–5 PM.



#MuseumDifferently
@AsianArtMuseum

All photographs © Asian Art Museum. Page 3: Bowl with figures by Abu Zayd al-Kashan, 1187 Iran; Kashan. Composite-body ceramic (fritware) with underglaze painting and overglaze enamel decoration (minai ware). *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B60P1874. Fragment of a Buddha image, approx. 100–200 C.E. India; Mathura region, Uttar Pradesh state. Sandstone. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B65S10. The Buddha Shakyamuni with the Buddhist elders Bakula and Angaja, 1800–1900. Tibet. One of seven images, colors on cotton. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B62D38. Page 4: Manchu woman's robe with peonies and butterflies, before 1920. China, Qing dynasty (1644–1911). Embroidery on twill. *Asian Art Museum, Gift of Dennis and Terry Tsu*, 2007.67. Hilt of dagger (kris), approx. 1850–1950. Indonesia; Bali. Steel, iron, silver, gold, and jewels. *Asian Art Museum, Transfer from the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, Gift of Templeton Crocker*, B84W6.a-b. Wrapping cloth (*bojagi*), 1800–1900. Korea, Joseon dynasty (1392–1910). Silk with patchwork design. *Asian Art Museum, Acquisition made possible by Ann Witter*, 2003.14. Samurai helmet with a half-face mask, approx. 1615–1650. Japan, Edo period (1615–1868). Iron, leather, laminated paper, lacquer, silk, and textile. *Asian Art Museum, Gift of William A. Galeno, M.D.*, B87M22.a-b. Page 5: The Buddha triumphing over Mara, 850–950. India; probably Kurkihar, Bihar state. Basalt. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B60S598. The Hindu deity Shiva, approx. 1300–1500. India; Tamil Nadu state. Bronze. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B69S14. Cup with calligraphic inscriptions, 1440–1460. Probably Uzbekistan; Samarkand, Timurid period (1370–1507). Nephrite. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B60J619. The deity Vishnu, 940–965 C.E. Cambodia, former kingdom of Angkor. Sandstone. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B65S7. Throne shrine for a Buddha image, approx. 1860–1880. Myanmar (Burma); Mandalay area. Lacquered and gilded wood and iron with mirror inlay. *Asian Art Museum, Gift from Doris Duke Charitable Foundation's Southeast Asian Art Collection*, 2006.271.a-t. The Buddhist deity Simhavaktra, a *dakini*, 1736–1795. China; Beijing or vicinity, Hebei province, Qing dynasty (1644–1911), reign of the Qianlong emperor (1736–1795). Dry lacquer with inlaid semiprecious stones. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B60S600. Page 6: Ritual vessel in the shape of a rhinoceros, approx. 1100–1050 BCE. China; unearthed in Shouzhong, Shandong province, Shang dynasty (approx. 1600–1050 BCE). Bronze. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B60B1+. Buddha dated 338 C.E. China, Hebei province. Later Zhao kingdom (319–351 C.E.). Bronze with gilding. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B60B1034. Lidded jar with design of a lotus pond, China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province, Ming dynasty (1368–1644), reign of the Jiajing emperor (1522–1566). Porcelain with underglaze cobalt and overglaze multicolor decoration. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B60P78+. The bodhisattva Avalokiteshvara (Guanyin), 1100–1200. China, Song dynasty (960–1279). Paulownia wood with pigments. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B60S24+. Ewer with lotus-shaped lid, approx. 1050–1150. Korea, Goryeo dynasty (918–1392). Stoneware with celadon glaze. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B60P123+.a-b. Moon jar, 1650–1750. Korea, Joseon dynasty (1392–1910). Porcelain with clear glaze. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B60P110+. The deities Brahma and Indra (Bote and Taishakuten), approx. 730–750. Japan; Nara, Nara period (710–794 C.E.). Hollow dry lacquer. *Asian Art Museum, The Avery Brundage Collection*, B65S13, B65S12.

