



SPRING 2011 PROGRAM UPDATE

The Asian Art Society began the Year of the Rabbit with a congenial and delicious banquet at Shanghai Lil’s on February 23. Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events.

APRIL 8 ANNUAL MEETING AND PROGRAM

5:30 Cocktails (cash bar) 6:15 Dinner 7 pm Program
Woodstock Country Club * 38th Street, across from IMA

Election of 2011-2012 board and officers

Curator John Teramoto: Remarks on this year’s Asian Art acquisitions.

Shirley Mueller: “Eli Lilly and CT Loo: Passion, Deception and Deceit”

Eli Lilly was not only CEO of Lilly and Company 1932-48. He was also a human being who wanted a life outside work. Within that spirit, he collected Chinese art, primarily for the fledging Indianapolis Museum of Art (then Herron Art School) but also for personal pleasure. His initial dealer was CT Loo, a prestigious man in his own right. The communications between the two tell us a great deal about Eli Lilly as a human being—and if you will-- the motivations and feelings of the man who formed the collection that is the heart of the IMA today.

She is a passionate collector of Chinese export art, and has written extensively and spoken all over the world, including London, Paris and South Africa, about this subject.

In addition to this interest, Shirley practiced neurology in Indianapolis, first as director of neurology at Wishard Memorial Hospital and later at St. Vincent’s Hospital. After retiring from medicine, she worked in the investment industry for seven years and now educates others on how to effectively self invest.

RESPONSE FORM:

RSVP by Monday, April 4:

Please mail this form with a check made out to IMA Asian Art Society for \$30/person to Niels Lyster, 1752 Glencary Crest, Indianapolis IN 46228.

Name(s) of those attending _____

Phone _____

List any food allergies _____

MAY 12

**RECONSTRUCTING DEVOTIONAL SITES:
Keith Wilson on the Cave Temples of Xiangtangshan**

7 pm * The Toby * Free

5:30 Reception for AAS members. Details on cost, location, how to RSVP to follow.

Utilizing recent innovations in 3-D scanning technology, the partially damaged Buddhist cave site of Xiangtangshan, one of the most important devotional sites in medieval China, can now be experienced virtually in full magnificence. Constructing an immersive recreation of the temple site, *Echoes of the Past: The Buddhist Cave Temples of Xiangtangshan*, organized by the Smart Museum of Art, University of Chicago and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, presents an array of sixth century Buddhist stone sculpture paired with a digitally-based contemporary art installation piece that addresses one of the damaged caves. Keith Wilson, Associate Director and Curator of Ancient Chinese Art at the Freer and Sackler Galleries will talk about this latest exhibition and the rich artistic and religious significance of the cave site, considered to be the crowning achievement of the Northern Qi dynasty. Many of the ideas and techniques explored in the project could be used to illuminate other sites of cultural significance elsewhere in the world.

MAY 20

TANAKA RYŌHEI exhibit reception

Recognition of Bill and Carolyn Greer, long-time AAS members and supporters, and owners of 10 works in the exhibit. Reception details will be announced later.

Tanaka Ryōhei (b. 1933) has established himself as Japan's foremost etcher. His works combine an immaculate eye for form with intense concentration on visual detail. Many of his themes focus around rapidly disappearing scenes of rural Japan like rustic farmhouses, but he is also captivated by traditional architectural elements—fence posts, entryways, lattices, roof tiles, or simply trees and other forms of nature. Though some of his images recall photographic realism, they are manipulated just enough to make the viewer cognizant of the artist's hand and presence. Though they are void of people, they are certainly infused with human emotions of nostalgia and a gentle melancholic wonder.

Tanaka never fails to capture and convey the material quality and texture of his subject matter, whether it is the rough and crackled bark of a pine tree or the graininess of a wooden board. Rich, velvety ink tones, stark whites, deep blacks—sometimes accompanied by vivid touches of color—combine to make images that evoke feelings of quiet solitude.

This exhibition also includes 14 works owned by Dr. Henry Slosser of Pasadena, California.

JUNE 12

ANNUAL PICNIC 4 pm

Rosemary and Gene Tanner have graciously offered their home for this year's picnic. More details later, but save the date now!

COMING IN NOVEMBER... TAWARA YUSAKU exhibition

November 10	6 – 7 pm	Asian Art Society members exclusive preview exhibit
	7 – 8 pm	Dr. John Teramoto lecture on Tawara Yusaka
	8 – 9 pm	Public preview of exhibit

For the last decade, IMA Curator of Asian Art John Teramoto has been dedicated to researching and organizing an exhibition of works by the late Japanese artist Tawara Yūsaku (1932–2004). *The Universe is Flux: Paintings by Tawara Yūsaku* will be the first major exhibition on the subject anywhere; it will debut at the IMA in fall 2011 and run for approximately four months. *The Universe is Flux: Paintings by Tawara Yūsaku* will feature 77 works, including scrolls, works on paper, and a two-panel screen—all of which have never been displayed in the United States previously.

The objects selected for this exhibition illustrate the important phases of the artist's short but prolific career from his turning almost exclusively to works in ink on paper in the early 1990's until just before his death in 2004.

Tawara's work serves as a bridge between contemporary artistic process and traditional principles of Chinese and Japanese art-making. The techniques Tawara utilized to create his art resulted in a body of work that not only expresses his views on principles of the universe, but is aesthetically powerful and beautiful.