

IN PERSPECTIVE

Art-world news and market updates, exhibitions and events.

Eastern Civilization

THE NEW YORK art world's version of March Madness is Asia Week. From March 12–19, 37 international galleries and 6 auction houses will join together to bring the best of Asian art—from China, Japan, Korea, India, South-east Asia, and the Himalayas—to collectors and enthusiasts of all kinds. Extending the bounty past the nominal week, some of the dealers will keep their special exhibitions open through March 21.

In addition to the round of gallery open-houses and auctions, Asia Week 2020 (the 11th annual edition) will pres-

ent symposia and lectures by experts, of which Asia Week chairwoman Martin says, "It makes perfect sense that with the best-informed minds



in Asian art convening in New York in March, we can expand our lecture program so that even more attendees can partake in a dynamic exchange of ideas within the various collecting sectors." The 2020 Presenting Sponsor of Asia Week New York is Songtsam, a boutique luxury hotel group with 11 properties in Tibet and Yunnan.

Among the seven dealers who are new to Asia Week, Rosenberg & Co. of New York will show work by contemporary Vietnamese artist Nguyen Cam. Cam makes abstract mixed media paintings whose colors, forms, and materials—including used rice sacks, cor-



rugated cardboard, Dó paper, and ginkgo leaves—speak in various ways to his relationship to his native country. "Through my paintings, I renew with my forefathers' land and embrace the ordinariness of things," says the artist.



Among the other offerings from Asia Week dealers: Carlo Christi of Brussels will show a late 16th–early 17th-century Tibetan painting in distemper on cotton,

Yama as Dharmaraja, depicting two black figures battling each other against an iconographically dense background of rich orange and green. Dai Ichi Arts of New York will have on hand a striking ceramic Oribe vase by Makoto Yamaguchi that looks like a cross between a seashell and a geode.



Carole Davenport of New York will offer a Heian-period wooden head of a Shinto deity, while Egenolf Gallery of Burbank, Calif., will display woodblock prints including Kawase Hasui's peace-inducing *Snow at Zojo Temple* (1922). An earlier print, by the great Hokusai, will be on view in the gallery of Joan Mirviss. Titled *Amida Waterfall in the Distance on the Kisokaido* (1833), it seems to approach modernist abstraction in its design. English dealer Nicholas Grindley will tempt collectors of Chinese furniture with a late-Ming huanghuali inset-leg bridle-joint table, and Kaikodo of New York will present a 17th–18th-century Ryukyuan lacquer stand inlaid with mother of pearl. Chinese-art specialist James Lally of New York will be offering a





March 16, including a painting by Zhang Daqian (Chang Dai-chien), *Lotus* (1978). The hanging scroll has six seals of the artist and is estimated at \$120,000–150,000. The March 17 Indian, Himalayan & Southeast Asian Art sale will be highlighted by a 13th–14th-century gilt copper alloy figure of Sadaksari Avalokitesvara from the Khasa-Malla King-

dom. The majestic, gleaming sculpture is expected to bring \$200,000–300,000. And on March 18, in its Fine Japanese and Korean Art sale, the auction house will offer a large and fine Joseon Dynasty porcelain moon flask (16th–17th century), with a transparent glaze showing a slight blue cast where it has pooled. Coming with a wood *tomobako* storage box, it is estimated at \$80,000–120,000.

large bronze incense burner in the form of a goose, from the early Ming period (late 14th–15th century). TAI Modern of Santa Fe will be offering contemporary Japanese baskets, such as *Swirling Ring* (2014), by Abe Motoshi.



While not formally part of the event, other dealers in New York will be having shows of Asian art timed to coincide with Asia Week. Among them is Ronin Gallery, a specialist in Japanese prints. Their show, “Shin-Hanga Beauties,” will include early-20th-century color woodblock prints of elegant women, such as Ito Shinsui’s *In Spring* (1917) and Hashiguchi Goyo’s *Woman Combing Her Hair* (1920).

RONIN GALLERY; BONHAMS; CARLO CRISTO; DALI CHI ARTS

National Portrait Gallery

John Singer Sargent: Portraits in Charcoal

On view Feb. 28–May 31

Experience a once-in-a-lifetime assemblage of charcoal portraits by John Singer Sargent, featuring luminaries of the early 20th century.

John Singer Sargent: Portraits in Charcoal is organized by the Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C., and the Morgan Library & Museum, New York.

Smithsonian

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Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother (Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon) by John Singer Sargent, charcoal on paper, 1923. Royal Collection Trust/All Rights Reserved.

