



CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

Dear Members,

May the Year of the Rat bless you and your family with good health, joy and happy returns! As we deal with the uncertainties brought upon by the novel coronavirus, it is important that we retain our good spirit and positive outlook. We anticipate possible disruptions but hope for the best as we present the following programmes for the months of March and April.

The University of Hong Kong is the leading academic institution in Hong Kong with a community of scholars who undertake research in diverse fields. We are very pleased to present two lectures from among these scholars. The first event is a lecture dinner with UMAG Curator, Dr. Kevin McLoughlin on *Reading and Regarding: Book Illustrations in Late Ming Print Culture*. The second is a lecture on *Rome and her Legacy: Classical Art in the 21st Century* given by Dr. Susanna McFadden, the second of the *Art and its Histories: Scholars in Lecture* series organized by HKU Department of Fine Arts. Both lectures will offer interesting insights on unique topics not often touched upon before.

We are very pleased to offer a 'Members Only' free event with a visit to the newly renovated Hong Kong Museum of Art. The new Museum Director, Dr. Maria Mok will share highlights about the museum's exhibitions that aspire to offer fresh ways of contrasting subject matters with a Hong Kong viewpoint.

The dynamics of our city can be appreciated when local historian Cheng Po Hung lead us on a heritage walk from Central to Western District. The tour will be a refreshing opportunity to learn about the history and development of trade and commerce, and the livelihood of the people living along these districts.

Looking ahead for 2020 – please save the date of Thursday, 7 May for our Annual General Meeting, Lecture and Dinner with Professor Derek Collins, Dean of the HKU Faculty of Arts as our special guest speaker. Three more trips have been organised for travel between June to September – *North Korea: An Unforgettable Adventure with Kathrina Zellweger; Salzburg Festival Centenary and Prague; and Armenia and Georgia – Pearls of the Caucasus*. Plans will also be made for a Members Day in the later part of the year with our Patron Mrs. Jane Qian Zhang at the University Lodge!

A last reminder that annual memberships have expired. Don't wait to renew your membership and support our efforts to promote the understanding and appreciation of art.

Happy Spring days ahead!

Yvonne Choi
Chairman

Lecture & Dinner

Reading and Regarding: Book Illustrations in Late Ming Print Culture
With Dr. Kevin McLoughlin

- Date:** Wednesday, 11 March 2020
Time: 18:00 Drinks
18:30 Lecture
19:45 Dinner
Place: Participants will be notified 7 days in advance
Cost: Lecture & Dinner - \$300 Member; \$400 Non-member
Limit: 20
Enquiries: Linda Wang at lindawang@hkums.com or 9026-2881

The HKU Museum Society is pleased to co-present a special lecture *Reading and Regarding: Book Illustrations in Late Ming Print Culture*. The lecture and dinner are jointly presented with The Ink Society with support from the University Museum and Art Gallery.

Lecture synopsis

Unprecedented numbers of books were published and in circulation in sixteenth and seventeenth century Ming China. This talk examines the remarkable and varied nature of late Ming book illustration and its impact on society and culture during this period, as well as its extraordinary legacy. It will also consider the development and proliferation of book illustration in light of technological changes, regionalisation, urbanisation, and literacy during the late Ming.

Speaker

Dr. Kevin McLoughlin is currently the Curator at the Hong Kong University Museum and Art Gallery. His previous professional roles have included serving as Interim Curator of Asian Art at the University of Chicago's Smart Museum of Art; as Lecturer in the Arts of China postgraduate course at Christie's Education London; as Senior Curator of the Chinese and Korean Collections and later Principal Curator for East & Central Asia at the National Museum of Scotland



in Edinburgh. Prior to this, he held positions as Deputy Curator of University Museums at the University of Durham; as Assistant Curator of the Barlow Collection of Ceramics, Bronzes and Jades at the University of Sussex; and East Asian Collections research assistant at the Chester Beatty Library, Dublin.

He holds a PhD in Art History from the University of Sussex; an MA in Chinese Art & Archaeology from the University of Durham; and a BA in Fine Art from the National College of Art and Design, Dublin. He also studied at the Beijing Language and Culture University.



Detail from the *Qingming shanghe tu* 清明上河圖 showing a book store 書坊
Qiu Ying (c. 1495-1552)
Handscroll, ink and colour on silk
Mid-16th century
Liaoning Provincial Museum



Guided Visit

Hong Kong Museum of Art With Dr. Maria Mok

Date:	Wednesday, 25 March 2020
Time:	11:00 - 12:30
Place:	Hong Kong Museum of Art, 10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Cost:	Members only event – free of charge
Limit:	20
Note:	Optional lunch afterward on share-cost basis at Hue Dining Room.
Enquiries:	Yvonne Choi at yvonnechoi@hkums.com or 9132-1669

For members only, we are pleased to organize a visit to the newly reopened Hong Kong Museum of Art (HKMoA) with the new Museum Director, Dr. Maria Mok.

Established in 1962, The Hong Kong Museum of Art (HKMoA) is the first public art museum in the city, now custodian of an art collection of over 17,000 items, representing the unique cultural legacy of HK's connection across the globe. The museum's art collection revolves around four core pillars of Chinese Antiquities, Chinese Painting and Calligraphy, China Trade Art, as well as Modern and Hong Kong Art, curating a wide world of contrasts from old to new, Chinese to Western, local to international, with a Hong Kong viewpoint. The museum aspires to refreshing ways of looking at tradition and making art relevant to everyone, creating new experiences and understanding.

After renovation, the HKMoA presents 11 exhibitions to showcase its cultural legacy and Hong Kong art lineage through the major donations and core collections housed in the museum. This tour will go through the exhibitions featuring the new spaces of the HKMoA, including "Ordinary to Extraordinary: Stories of the Museum" that showcases star pieces of the four core collections of the Museum, "Classics Remix: The Hong Kong Viewpoint" which incorporates new elements into the four major collections, tracking the people and stories behind the collections, and "The Breath of Landscape", an exhibition that offers a unique art experience by bringing the sky, the flowing water, mountains and the breeze from nature into The Wing of the museum and its surrounds.



Resource Person

Dr. Maria Mok joined the Hong Kong Museum of Art in 1996, and is currently its Museum Director. She has extensive museum experience, previously curator in charge of different departments, including China Trade Art, Chinese Antiquities, Modern and Hong Kong Art, Educational and Extension Services, and has curated and led a vast number of exhibitions and programmes. She is a specialist in China trade painting with a research focus on dating and authentication, and an extensive collection of published works with particular interest in the artistic interaction of global trade that includes *Images of the Canton Factories 1760-1822: Reading History in Art* (HKU Press: 2015) co-authored with Paul A. Van Dyke. Dr. Mok has a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts Studies, a Master's degree in Chinese Historical Studies on Guangdong decorative arts of the Qing dynasty, a Doctoral degree on China trade painting, and a graduate diploma in Museum Studies.



Heritage Walk

Central and Western District With Cheng Po Hung

- Date:** Saturday, 18 April 2020
Time: 11:00 – 13:00
Place: Meet at 10:50 in front of Tai Kwun on Old Bailey Street, Central
Cost: \$250 Member; \$300 Non-member; \$50 for students with valid ID
Limit: 20
Note: This event will be conducted in Cantonese. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water, hat, and sunscreen. Optional lunch with Speaker afterward on share-cost basis.
Enquiries: Sef Lam at seflam@hkums.com or 6944-4701

Cheng Po Hung, UMAG honorary advisor and renowned Hong Kong historian will lead us on a walking tour of Central and Western District, retracing its early history and development. We will pass through Staunton Street Prison, Alice Memorial Hospital, Queen's College, celebration venue of Ullambana Festival (Hungry Ghost Festival), Hong Kong News-Expo, Shing Wong Temple, YMCA, Blake Garden, Kwong Fuk Ancestral Hall (Pak Shing Temple) and Tung Wah Hospital, Possession Point, Government Civic Hospital and Ko Shing Theatre, King George V Memorial Park and Facade of the Old Mental Hospital, Centre Street Market, Jardine's Bridge, Western Police Station (Police Station No. 7), Shek Tong Tsui Towngas Plant and red-light district, etc.





Route:

Staunton Street > Hollywood Road > Aberdeen Street > Staunton Street > Bridges Street > Tai Ping Shan Street > Po Yan Street > Hollywood Road > Queen's Road West > Hospital Road > Centre Street > Shek Tong Tsui

*Itinerary is subject to change with or without prior notice.



漫遊中西區

多年來，香港大學美術博物館名譽顧問、著名香港歷史學家鄭寶鴻先生曾帶我們導覽港島東區、油尖旺區等。這次，鄭先生將會帶領我們探索中西區一帶，與大家一起回溯這個地區的起源及發展。

沿途的舊建築及遺跡：

第一代監獄 > 雅麗氏醫院 > 皇仁書院 > 士丹頓街(卅間)市集及孟蘭勝會舉行點 > 公理堂(新聞博覽館) > 城隍廟 > 青年會 > 卜公花園疫區 > 百姓廟及東華醫院 > 佔領角 > 國家醫院及高陞戲院 > 英皇佐治五世公園及精神病院 > 正街市集及早期華人居住區 > 正街貨倉群及渣甸橋(碼頭) > 七號差館和石塘咀煤氣廠及塘西風月區等

路線：

士丹頓街 > 荷李活道 > 鴨巴甸街 > 士丹頓街 > 必列啫士街 > 太平山街 > 普仁街 > 荷李活道 > 皇后大道西 > 醫院道 > 正街 > 渣甸橋 > 石塘咀

*行程改動可能不作預先通知



Lecture

Art and its Histories: Scholars in Lecture

Rome and her Legacy: Classical Art in the 21st Century

With Dr. Susanna McFadden

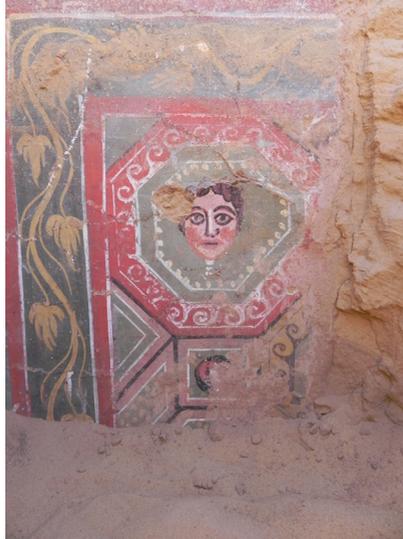
- Date:** Tuesday, 21 April 2020
Time: 18:30 Drink reception
19:00 – 20:00 Lecture
Place: Asia Society Hong Kong Center, 9 Justice Drive, Admiralty, Hong Kong
Cost: TBA
Note: Details on cost and registration will be forthcoming.
Enquiries: Rose Ho Hofmann at 9280-8307 or rosehofmann@hkums.com

Art and its Histories: Scholars in Lecture is a series of public lectures organized by the Department of Fine Arts, HKU and presented in collaboration with Asia Society Hong Kong Center, Friends of Hong Kong Museum of Art, and The University of Hong Kong Museum Society. The programs aim to deliver current art-historical thinking in an accessible manner presented by specialists in the field. The series is part of the Department of Fine Art's broader dedication to promoting the importance and relevance of art history in Hong Kong.

Lecture Synopsis

Rome and her Legacy: Classical Art in the 21st Century

According to legend, on this date, April 21st, 753 BCE, the semi-divine twin brothers, Romulus and Remus, founded the settlement that was to become the majestic city of Rome. This event spawned a mighty empire and nurtured a visual culture that left a lasting imprint on the subsequent civilizations and (art) histories of the western hemisphere. What better way to acknowledge such a birthday than to investigate and interrogate its continued legacy? Today, some 2,772 years later, remnants of Roman art and architecture are *still* being discovered meters below the modern cities of Europe, Africa and the Near East, as well as in the deserts and forests of over 40 countries whose modern borders now fall within the territory once controlled from Rome. With a particular focus on wall paintings, this talk details some of these recent discoveries so as to introduce revitalized assessments of “Classical” art for the new millennium.



Speaker

Dr. Susanna McFadden is Assistant Professor and M.A. coordinator in the Department of Fine Arts at the University of Hong Kong. She holds a Ph.D. in Art History from the University of Pennsylvania and specializes in the art, architecture, and archaeology of the Roman and late antique Mediterranean, with a particular emphasis on the medium of wall painting. She has been a fellow in residence at the American Academy in Rome (2009-2010) and the Getty Research Institute (2016) and since 2005 has been a member of the New York University sponsored team excavating the late Roman site of Amheida in Egypt's Dakhleh Oasis. Recent publications include essays on the wall paintings from Amheida and a multi-disciplinary exploration of the Tetrarchic era wall paintings in Egypt, *The Art of Empire: The Roman Frescoes and Imperial Cult Chamber in Luxor Temple* (Yale University Press, 2015), which won the 2017 Archaeological Institute of America's James R. Weisman Book Award.

EXHIBITIONS at the UNIVERSITY MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

Chak: Landscapes and other Natural Occurrences

7 February – 3 May 2020

2/F, Fung Ping Shan Building, University Museum and Art Gallery, HKU

Chak 翟宗浩 (b. 1958, Hong Kong) graduated from the Department of Fine Arts at the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1981. At Chinese University, he studied with Liu Kuosung, who reinforced the importance of considering multiple artistic traditions and unconventional modes of brushwork as a way of modernising Chinese painting. During his undergraduate years, Chak incorporated a number of contemporary theories and materials into his practice, for which he received several prestigious awards. After graduation, he received a Monbusho Scholarship to continue his education at the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts, and then went on to study in a variety of programmes in the U.S., including a residency at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine and the National Artists Program at the PS1 Museum in New York City.

After living abroad for nearly 30 years, Chak returned to Hong Kong in 2009, where he has continued to create abstract landscapes that explore traditional elements in Chinese art while incorporating more contemporary mediums and motifs. The exhibition features a selection of Chak's recent drawings and large-scale paintings in both oil and acrylic. We thank Chak for his donation of artworks to the University Museum and express our gratitude to the Hong Kong Arts Development Council for their financial support of the accompanying publication.



EXHIBITIONS at the UNIVERSITY MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

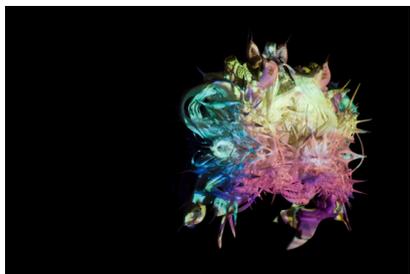
Tobias Klein: Metamorphosis or Confrontation

21 February – 17 May 2020

1/F, TT Tsui Building, University Museum and Art Gallery, HKU

Tobias Klein trained as an architect and taught at the world-renown Architects' Association in London. Today he teaches at the School of Creative Media at City University in Hong Kong, where he explores applications of three-dimensional printing through the fields of architecture, art design and interactive media installation. With these various fields of study, Klein creates a syncretism of contemporary CAD/CAM technologies with site- and culturally-specific design narratives, intuitive non-linear design processes and historical architectural references. Klein understands the multiple roles of architect, designer and cultural agitator as being the keys to a new form of creator-craftsman who is set to overcome the fifteen- and sixteenth-century schism between intellectual and manual labourer, as well as the nineteenth-century gulf between automation and poetic creation. Throughout his work, Klein has established the idea of Digital Craftsmanship as an operational synthesis between digital and physical materials, and tools as poetic and technical expressions.

The UMAG exhibition Tobias Klein: Metamorphosis or Confrontation aims to explain and communicate the quality of each of his technically refined works by displaying a significant



number of artworks developed from various materials and periods of creation. Together, these individual pieces serve as an all-encompassing overview of his broader exquisite project. We thank the German Consulate of Hong Kong and Macau and the HKU Museum Society for their support of this unique exhibition.

EXHIBITIONS at the UNIVERSITY MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

Clouds of Ink, Pools of Colour: Paintings by Hou Beiren

6 March – 3 May 2020

1/F, TT Tsui Building, University Museum and Art Gallery, HKU

Clouds of Ink, Pools of Colour: Paintings by Hou Beiren features recent donations to UMAG of Master Hou's splashed-ink landscape paintings. His panoramas are filled with playful but elegiac meditations on the theme of the Chinese landscape expressed in luminescent swirls of colour and cascades of ink, a theme to which he has returned numerous times over recent decades.

The origins and sources behind Hou Beiren's paintings lie in the ink landscape tradition of the Tang (618–907) and Southern Song (1127–1279) dynasties. Subsequently eclipsed by literati painting in China after the fourteenth century, splashed ink continued in the Zen influenced Japanese ink wash painting of the Muromachi Period (1333–1578). This tradition was revived and renewed in the 1950s by the great twentieth-century master of Chinese painting Zhang Daqian (1899–1983), who saw parallels with the Abstract Expressionist and action painting that was then dominant in the Western avant garde. Zhang and Hou were close friends, and in recent decades Hou has tirelessly developed his form of splashed-ink landscapes into a uniquely personal practise.

We wish to express our gratitude to the Hong Kong University Museum Society for their generous support of this project. Lastly, we are deeply grateful to Master Hou for his donation to UMAG and his enthusiasm for our exhibition of his work in Hong Kong, a place he remembers with great fondness.



Autumn Mountain Covered in Red

72 x 137 cm

Ink and watercolour on paper

2001

© Collection of the Hou Beiren Art Museum

侯北人美術館

EXHIBITIONS at the UNIVERSITY MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

Wesley Tongson: 'Mountain Taoist'

6 March - 3 May 2020 (opening celebration on 19 March)

1/F Fung Shan Building, University Museum and Art Gallery, HKU

The University Museum and Art Gallery is honoured to display six newly donated works by Wesley Tongson (1957-2012). Known for both his traditional ink and uniquely developed finger paintings, the exhibition *Wesley Tongson: Mountain Taoist* combines both genre and includes the master's mountain landscapes as well as a couple of bamboo paintings documenting the artist's oeuvre and his imaginative move from painting by brush to finger.



Mountians of Heaven 5

天界 5

2002

**Wesley Tongson (TONG Ka-wai, Tang Jiawei,
1957-2012)**

唐家偉 (1957-2012)

Ink and color on board

木板水墨設色

Gift of Lilia and Kenneth Tongson

唐有洪唐梁露生伉儷惠贈

Although modest, the scope of the exhibition spans twenty important years of Tongson's life and document the ink, splash ink and finger paintings that made him first famous and describe his legacy. He himself considered landscape paintings the most difficult to master form of Chinese art, and both studied and mentored your students throughout his career. Referring to himself as 'mountain Taoist' or 'mountain teacher', Tongson's affinity with and exploration of mountain paintings is well known today. The mountain, and nature, offered the artist a spiritual retreat, a zen space that—like with his painting practice—he could withdraw to. In so approaching his topic, Tongson shows a deep understanding of the natural and spiritual meaning of the Chinese landscape and a continuous appreciation and following of traditional masters and their philosophy, art and culture.

Together with the *Chak: Landscapes and other Natural Occurrences and Clouds of Ink, Pools of Colour: Paintings by Hou Beiren*, *Wesley Tongson: Mountain Taoist* will form part of a trio of small exhibitions grouped together as *Contemporary Chinese Landscape Paintings: A Celebration of Recent Donations to the University Museum*. We start the new decade with this diverse display and newly collected works and give thanks to our donors for their generous support.



THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG MUSEUM SOCIETY

The University of Hong Kong Museum Society was established in 1988 by Mrs. Margaret Wang, whose husband, Dr. Wang Gungwu, was Vice-Chancellor of The University of Hong Kong from 1986 to 1996. Since then, the Museum Society, a non-profit organization, besides supporting The University of Hong Kong Museum and Art Gallery (UMAG) has become a vital force in the promotion of art and culture in the Hong Kong community.

The Museum Society is governed by an Executive Committee comprised of volunteer members. The Committee organizes a variety of activities and trips related to art and culture. Proceeds generated from the Society's activities are donated to UMAG for acquisition of selected artworks, sponsorship of special exhibitions and notable programmes, as well as to The University of Hong Kong and the local community for the support of educational initiatives.

Bearing a legacy of over sixty years, UMAG is one of Hong Kong's oldest and most distinguished museums. Situated in the elegant and historic Fung Ping Shan Building and the adjoining T.T. Tsui Building, the Museum has over 2,000 pieces of Chinese antiquities in ceramics, bronzes, paintings, Chinese oil paintings, as well as carvings in jade, wood and stone.

The Museum is open to the public free of charge from Tuesday to Saturday 09:30 to 18:00, and Sunday 13:00 to 18:00. It is closed on public holidays.

Objectives

- To support and assist the University Museum and Art Gallery
- To promote the understanding and appreciation of art, particularly Chinese arts and antiquities
- To raise funds for the purpose of enriching existing collections, sponsoring exhibitions and financing cultural activities and scholarship programs
- To promote friendship among members

Activities

- Local – lectures and symposiums, museum and gallery tours, visits to artists' studios and collectors' homes, culinary evenings, heritage walks and weekend trips
- Overseas – guided tours to places of historical and cultural significance, including museums, galleries, private collections and special events

Benefits for Members

- Museum Society newsletters and invitations to lectures and symposiums
- Invitations to previews of UMAG exhibitions
- 20% discount on UMAG publications and gift items
- Exclusive Members Only events

Membership

- To become a member, please complete the Membership Form attached in the newsletter.



Honorary Life President: Mrs. Margaret Wang

Patron: Mrs. Jane Qian Zhang

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Honorary Legal Advisor		Angus Forsyth	
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