



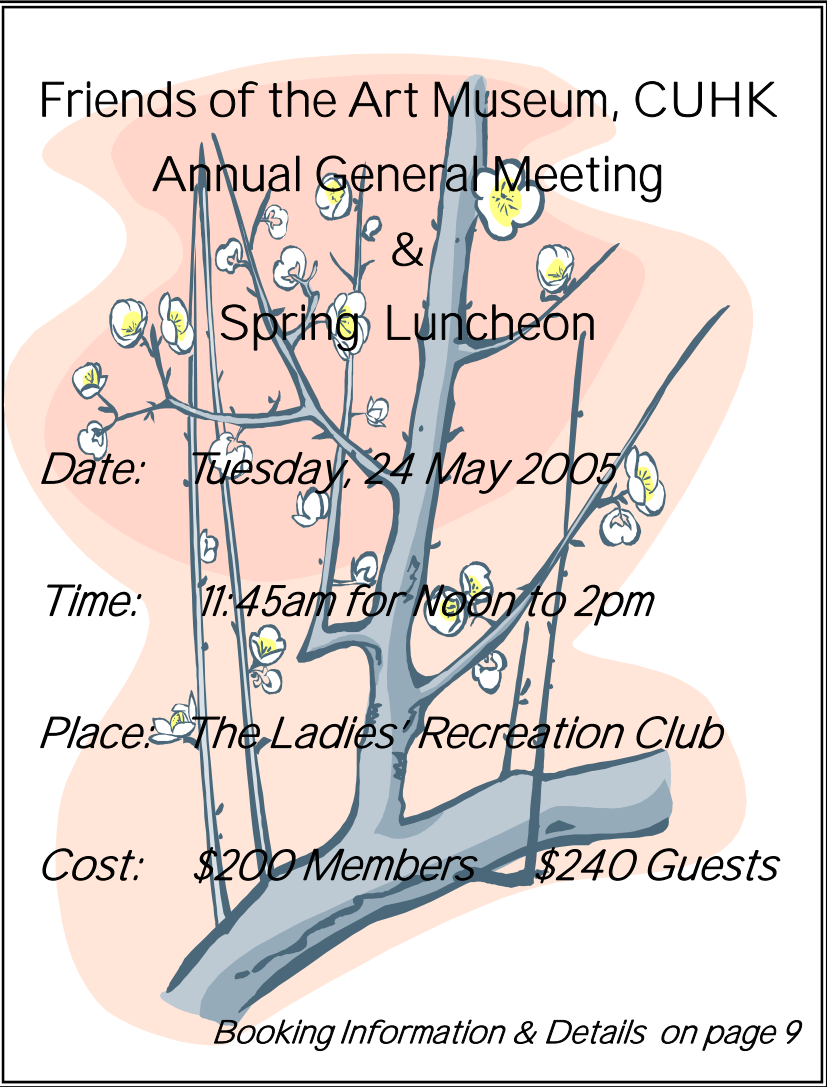
FRIENDS

June 2005

The NEWSLETTER of the Friends of the Art Museum,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

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Friends of the Art Museum, CUHK Annual General Meeting & Spring Luncheon

Date: Tuesday, 24 May 2005

Time: 11:45am for Noon to 2pm

Place: The Ladies' Recreation Club

Cost: \$200 Members \$240 Guests

Booking Information & Details on page 9

The end of the year is fast approaching!!

Your Membership will expire September 30, 2005.
(Except for those who have joined after April 1st, 2005)
Renewal forms will be included in the June Newsletter.

Do you have friends who want to become Friends?
Joining now will confer membership until 30 September 2006.
A membership application form may be downloaded from our website,
www.cuhk.edu.hk/ics/friends.

For further details, please contact:
Joumana Achcar, Membership Coordinator at, **achcar@netvigator.com**



FRIENDS Executive Committee 2004-2005

Phone

Fax

Email

Chairman's Message...

Vicki Firth

Dear Friends

March 31 was the end of the Friends fiscal year, and I would like to thank all of you, as well as our hardworking board, for your support of Friends activities and for making the year a financial success. We have come back from the SARS downturn in spectacular fashion. I'm not going to go into detail here about how that's been done, but if you come to the AGM you will hear all about it, complete with photos, and also hear about Hong Kong artists from Henry Au Yeung who used to teach at Chinese U. I hope you will join us on the 24th.

At the AGM we will be saying farewell to several board members: Our Treasurer Mary-Lou Donnan has done a terrific job with the accounts, as well as being a source of ideas and always lending a helping hand. Likewise Ellen Chan, on Day Tours. She has come up with imaginative and unusual destinations and provided the local knowledge that has been so helpful on an ongoing basis. Though she leaves the board, she will continue working as a docent and will help organise the Docent Programme next year. Dominica Yang is also officially leaving the board, but will be continuing her current job putting together beautiful designs for our cards and other products. Thank you Mary-Lou, Ellen and Dominica. It has been a pleasure serving with you and getting to know you over the past few years.

2006 will be the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Friends, and the board has been discussing various ways to mark our quarter century. One suggestion put forward by Prof Peter Lam, Director of the Art Museum, and endorsed by the board is that we publish a history of the Friends. The book could include photos of Friends donations, scholarship information, reminiscences, and more. We are looking for Friends members (writers/historians) to help us organise this project. Please contact any board member if you can help. The Friends membership is a goldmine of talent, but sometime the board needs help finding the right vein!

Other events to mark our 25th are also under discussion. We would like to involve as many of our members as possible in this process. Anyone interested in participating in our planning, please let us know.

Wu Tung, former Curator of Asian Art at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, is coming to town again. His last two lectures in Hong Kong were a great success. Do join us on 3 May for an informal talk on Buddhist Art followed by dinner.

Vicki

FRIENDS' Information...

May 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 <i>Buddhism Study Group, Session 9</i> Wu Tung Lecture, 7:30pm	4 <i>Ceramic Restoration Lecture</i> 9:30am	5	6	7
8	9 <i>Mandarin Conversation Morning</i> 10:00-Noon 	10 <i>Buddhism Study Group Session 10</i> 11 <i>Big Buddha Day Tour</i> 9am - 4pm 	11	12	13	14 <i>Graduates' Art Exhibition Opening</i> CUHK
15	16	17 <i>Buddhism Study Group Final Session</i>	18 <i>Lecture: Mandarins Maharajahs & Me, 10am</i>	19	20	21
22	23	24  <i>AGM Luncheon</i> 11:45-2:00	25	26	27 <i>Kyrgyzstan Trip Departs</i> 10:00am	28
29	30	31				

Study Groups...



Winter/Spring Study Group: Buddhism in China

Travels of Hsuan Tsang and his Quest for the True Buddhist Sutras from Nalanda	Guardians of the Law: Lohans in Chinese Buddhism , Art and Culture
Sutras and Charms	Buddhism in China Under Communism
Buddhist Nuns: Women in Chinese Buddhism	Buddhism in Hong Kong

The study-group concludes this month on 17 May. As always we have learnt much and had an enjoyable time doing so. We are now looking forward sadly to the final few presentations.

Dates and Venue: This group runs on Tuesday mornings, 10am – 12noon at The Helena May. Visitors are welcome but please ring the co-coordinator to organize a date to attend.

Summer Study Group: *Passports and Parasols: Women Travelers in Asia*

For centuries it was frowned upon for women to travel without an escort, chaperone or husband. To journey was to put oneself at risk, not only physically but morally as well – a little freedom could be a dangerous thing. Despite these strictures, there was a group of women who broke with tradition, traveled extensively and wrote seriously about their travels.



We invite members of The Helena May & The Friends of the Art Museum, CUHK who are staying in Hong Kong for the summer, or even part thereof, to become arm-chair travelers and join what promises to be a fascinating study group where we will learn about these fantastic women and their travels. Each participant will choose a lady traveler to research and will present their findings to the group in the form of a thirty-minute talk. Subjects can be historical figures or contemporary women travelers. **Some Suggested Travelers:** Isabella Bird, Anna Leon Owens, Alexander David-Neal, Gertrude Bell, Jane Digby, Pearl Buck, Gladys Aylwood, Margaret Brooks, Freda Stark, Hester Stanhope, Marianne North, Anna Forbes, Sophia Raffles, Han Suyin, Harriet Low, Emily Kahn, and Alexandra Tolstoyto name just a few.

Tentative Days and Dates

An organization morning will be held at on Tuesday, 7 June with the study-group getting underway on Tuesday June 28th and running until mid-August.

To join the study-group or find out more information please contact Heather Chappell at hchappel@netvigator.com or phone 2592 9771 or 9663 2691

Day Tours

Buddha Bathing Ceremony at Po Lin Monastery 寶蓮禪寺



Date: **Tuesday, 10 May**
Meet: **9:00am, Queen's Pier, for bus to Po Lin Monastery arriving 10:45am**
Departure: **2:15 pm, arrive Central around 4:00pm**
Cost: **\$200* members \$ 220* non-members** **Limited to 15 Persons**

In 1906 three Zen Monks arrived on Lantau island to establish the monastery first known as 'The Big Hut' (after the structure built to house their followers). In 1924, the Venerable Ji Xiu became the monastery's first Abbot, formally naming the sacred building (at that time still made of bamboo and wood) Po Lin Monastery. Over time, the monastery complex has grown in size and grandeur and now includes the Tian Tan Big Buddha, completed in 1993. The Buddha statue reflects the blended and combined artistry of the Sui and Tang dynasties. This marriage of religious culture and sculpture has quickly become a Hong Kong landmark. On Tuesday we will tour the temple for an hour, then gather to watch the Buddha Bathing ceremony at Noon, following which we will have lunch at the Monastery. During the lunch hour, we will be entertained by live performances of Chinese Kung Fu, and Face-Changing. At some point, a bag will quietly be passed around among participants to collect donations to the Monastery. **(*The \$200/220 cost covers all tour expenses except the donation. Suggested amount of donation is \$100 per person.) This is a joint activity with the HKU Museum Society.**

To Book: Please send tear sheet and cheque payable to Friends of the Art Museum, CUHK Ltd. to Ellen Chan at Block J, Flat 2, 6th Floor, Beverly Hill, Broadwood Road, Happy Valley, Hong Kong.

Forthcoming Day Tour: Huizhou Vernacular Architecture

Date: **Thursday, 16 June**
Place: **The HK Heritage Museum**



A large number of well-preserved Ming & Qing dynasty villages can still be found in southern Anhui province. Hugging the riverbanks and backed by mountains, they still today evoke this line from a Qing poem: *"Deep in the verdant and misty mountains, emerged the whitewashed houses..."*

The exhibition is a joint presentation by the HK Leisure & Cultural services and the Anhui Provincial Museum. It features more than 120 pieces of exquisite wood, brick and stone carvings, including items from the collection of Friends' member **Kai Yin Lo** such as carved door panels (*pictured below*). There is also a reconstruction of the main hall and study of a typical Huizhou dwelling.

A bus to the museum will be provided and a Chinese lunch has been arranged. Further details and booking information will appear in the June newsletter.



Enquiries: contact Ellen Chan, ellelove@ctimail.com

Lectures...

Connoisseurship of Chinese Painting

Joint Lecture and Dinner Presented by the Friends and the 30's Group

Speaker: **Dr. Wu Tung**
Date: **Tuesday 3 May 2005**
Place: **The Helena May, 35 Garden Road, Central**
Time: **7:30pm**
Cost: **\$280 members, \$325 guests**

Dr. Wu Tung, Matsutaro Shoriki Curator Emeritus of Asian Art at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, will share with us his insights into the glory of Chinese painting, one of the world's oldest continuing painting traditions. He will examine the close relationship between painting and calligraphy, and explore the philosophy and aesthetics inherent in Chinese painting.

Afterward, Dr. Wu will join us, along with members of the 30's Group, an organization of young professionals, for dinner and an informal discussion.

Please note: As this event was organized too late to include in the April newsletter, members were notified via email in April. If you have not yet signed up, and you wish to attend, please contact Mary Nissen asap to see if places are still available.

Restoration of Ceramics

Speaker: **Mr. Gary Ning**
Date: **Wednesday 4 May 2005**
Place: **The Chinese University of Hong Kong,**
Time: **9:30am Meet at Queen's Pier for bus ride out to CUHK**
Cost: **\$130 Members, \$150 Guests**

Gary Ning will meet with our group to discuss ceramics restoration. His topics will include an explanation of the different types of ceramics, common problems, restoration procedures, and he will show examples of repaired ceramics. His talk will include a visit to the Museum's conservation laboratory.

Gary Ning received his training at the Institute of Archaeology, University of London. He was a conservator at the Hong Kong Museum of Art from 1975 to 1989, and he has held his present position as Curator (Administration & Conservation) at The Art Museum, CUHK since 1989.

There is a limit of 20 participants, so please book early. We will return to Queen's Pier at about 1:00pm.

Booking & Enquiries: Please send tear sheet and cheque for this activity to: Mary Nissen, 134 Cedar Drive, Redhill, Tai Tam, Hong Kong, Tel 2813 7321, **e-mail: nissen@netvigator.com**

Lectures...

Mandarins, Maharajas and Me

Speaker: **Helen McBride Anderson**
Date: **Wednesday 18 May 2005**
Place: **The Peak (address provided at time of sign-up)**
Time: **10:00am-12:00noon**
Cost: **\$80 Members, \$100 Guests**

Helen McBride Anderson is a lecturer, teacher, appraiser and consultant on Asian art. A native of Virginia, Mrs. Anderson has lived in Asia for much of the last fifty years. She has pursued her studies of Asian art over many years and has lectured in museums in the U.S. and in Asia. While living Bangkok, she served as chairman of docents in the Thai culture wing of the National Museum. She also served as director of numerous study groups on Asian ceramics. One of the many highlights of her life was a summer spent as a visiting scholar at the National Palace Museum in Taipei. It was here, many years earlier, that she saw her favorite Ming dynasty blue and white porcelain. This was to become one of her grand passions.

After her husband retired from Embassy life, the Andersons returned to their beach home in California, where Helen became a consultant to the Michael Srednick Collection of Beverly Hills, one of the first major collections of Chinese ceramics brought to the USA after the reopening of China to the West. It was a wonderland of ceramics, unseen by the general public for over fifty years. As a Chairman of the Asian Arts Committee of the San Diego Museum of Art, she was 'forced' to lead a tour for members to the National Museum in Bangkok. A new career was born. For many years Helen has led the San Diego Museum of Art's tours. Today, she lives with her daughter in Hong Kong and last month led a study tour to India for the Oriental Ceramics Society.

Booking & Enquiries: Felicity Stonehill, House 10, Red Hill Park, 12 Pak Pat Shan Road, Tai Tam, Hong Kong, Tel. 3197 0292, email: csandfs@netvigator.com

Forthcoming in June! A joint offering from the Friends and the Textile Society of HK...

Japanese Kimono Patterns: Inspired by Nature

Speaker: **Keiko Packard**
Date: **Thursday 9 June 2005**
Place: **The Helena May, 35 Garden Road, Central**
Time: **6:30pm for 7:00pm talk; optional dinner on shared-cost basis**
Cost: **\$50 Members, \$100 Guests**

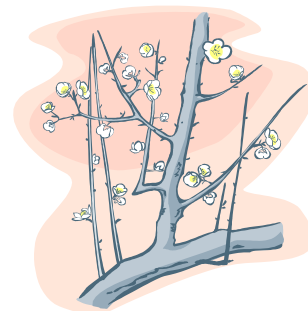
Keiko Packard, a past chairman of the Friends, will be well known to members of both Societies. On her brief return visit to Hong Kong she will be giving us an illustrated presentation, contrasting the differing classical aesthetic styles seen in the kimono patterns of Eastern and Western Japan and the anthropological concept of 'Japaneseness' as related to the Japanese closeness to nature.

Booking & Enquiries: Please send tear sheet and cheque for this activity to: Sarah Parnell, 11 Tytam Village, Stanley, H.K. Enquiries: Email: sarahp@netvigator.com, Tel. 2813 8588.

AGM: Details & Booking Information

Please Join Us!

Date: Tuesday, 24 May 2005
Time: 11:45am for 12 Noon—2:00pm
Place: Ladies Recreation Club
10 Old Peak Rd., Mid-levels
Cost: \$200 Members; \$240 Non-Members



We look forward to welcoming you to our AGM on the 24th of May. Don't miss this opportunity to say goodbye to departing board members, meet the candidates we have selected to fill their positions and vote on our 2005-2006 slate.

Formalities will be followed by lunch and a talk by Henry Au Yeung, of Grotto Fine Art, who will speak to us about contemporary Hong Kong art. An excellent speaker who is fully engaged in this topic, Henry will add immeasurably to what you might already know about contemporary Chinese art in Hong Kong, or his talk may serve as an introduction to those who are unfamiliar with the subject.

To Book: Send tearsheet and cheque to Roni Kalyk, Suite 1663, 3 Canton Road, TST, Kowloon, HK. Enquiries: Irene Flowers on 2113-0053; Roni Kalyk on 2730-4096.



Film Group:

Once a month, we see an Asian film that is showing on the local circuit and then repair to a nearby restaurant for coffee and discussion. This is a casual, no-sign-up event and — as it is impossible to predict what the Hong Kong circuit will be screening in May— we announce the film, venue and time a few days before by e-mail. Please join us! We welcome new members.



If you are not on our list or would like to suggest a film, e-mail: filmcuhk@yahoo.com

Gallery Group... Mandarin Group

<p style="text-align: center;">May  June</p> <p>Through Gallery Group, interested members meet once a month, generally in the daytime, to visit a gallery, museum or exhibition. Every effort will be made to secure the help of informed speakers or guides to illuminate these events. The Gallery Group will be meeting in May, but preparations have not yet been finalized. Participants will be notified of the activity details by e-mail ten days or so beforehand. Please also mark June 13 in your diary for a visit to <i>Galerie La Vong's</i> anniversary show at The Rotunda</p> <p>To receive more details of these and other visits please register your email address for Gallery Group by contacting lucyjustinbull@hotmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">May  Meetings</p> <p>On Monday, 9 May, we will meet at the home of Tsuey Turley. Members have been advised of the conversation topic by email in April. The meeting time remains 10:00am to noon. Address provided at time of sign-up.</p> <p>If no films in Putonghua are showing in the circuit this month, we will again arrange a film screening at a member's home. Details will be provided shortly. Many thanks to <i>Penny Smith & Lan Anwar</i> for hosting cinema evenings at their homes in March and April!</p> <p>To indicate interest in participating in these events, please contact Corey: otoshis_hk@yahoo.com</p>
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Day Book Group....

The Book Selection for May had not been decided at the time this newsletter went to print. Current day book group members will be informed of the selection by e-mail.

If you are interested in joining this book group, please contact the coordinator:

sagiri_dayal@hotmail.com

Meeting Time: 12 Noon
Location: Tregunter Tower
Midlevels

Evening Book Group....

The Book Selection for May had not been decided at the time this newsletter went to print. Current day book group members will be informed of the selection by e-mail.

If you are interested in joining this book group, please contact the coordinator:

mehutton@bryancave.com

Meeting Time: 8pm
Location: Burnside Estate,
Repulse Bay

Museum & University News...

Current Exhibitions:

SHIMMERING COLOURS: Monochromes of the Yuan to Qing Periods - The Zhuyuetang Collection

Date: March – 25 September 2005

Venue: East-wing Galleries, Art Museum CUHK

This exhibition features 178 pieces of monochrome ware, dating from the Yuan to the Qing dynasties (14th – 19th centuries) and produced in Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province, the ceramic capital of China. For monochrome wares, the evolution in firing technique and innovation of unprecedented glaze colours from the 14th century onwards peaked in the late Kangxi to Qianlong reigns (18th century) of the Qing dynasty. On display are many magnificent examples from the imperial factory commissioned by the Imperial Household Department, most of which carry reign marks of the emperors. The exhibits also provide a comprehensive overview of the Chinese tradition in ceramic connoisseurship during the last five centuries. All the exhibits are selected from the *Zhuyuetang* collection. The great number of fine examples comprising all varieties of monochromatic glaze colours makes this collection one of the most important in the world for reference purposes.

LOFTY MOUNTAINS: Landscape Paintings from the Art Museum Collection

Date: March – 8 May 2005

Venue: West-wing Galleries, Art Museum CUHK

An exhibition of some 80 landscape paintings dating from the Ming dynasty to the modern era (15th to 20th century), a period when landscape paintings were explored by numerous artists and various distinctive styles were established. The exhibits are selected from the Art Museum collection, and include acquisitions from the former *Banyuan* collection and generous donations from such groups as the *Bei Shan Tang Foundation*.

New Exhibition

THE PLAY AFTER TOMORROW,

Graduation Exhibition, Department of Fine Arts

Date: 14 May – 26 June 2005

Venue: West-wing galleries, Art Museum, CUHK

On display are Chinese paintings, Western style paintings, and works of mixed media --- all the final projects by Fine Arts students from the graduating class of 2005. The title of the exhibition "The Play after Tomorrow" refers to the brilliant future careers of the 31 newly-minted artists. For details, please visit <http://www.arts.cuhk.edu.hk/~fadept/>

Asian Tours...

CENTRAL ASIA -
Kyrgyzstan & West China.
27 May – 8 June, 2005

Trip Full

Waiting List Only

Yu Yuan, Shanghai

SHANGHAI

Museums, Gardens & Markets

7 – 9 September 2005
3 days / 2 nights

Shanghai, situated at the gateway to the Yangzi, is the most cosmopolitan city in China. The pace of change in the past decade has been phenomenal.

The Friends is offering a short trip to visit the Shanghai Museum which, by all accounts, houses one of the country's best collections of Chinese art. Explore the old city and enjoy browsing in the antique market area. Take a stroll along the Bund, Shanghai's waterfront, lined with colonial buildings – a reminder of its

former status as a foreign treaty port. Enjoy a visit to the water-city of Suzhou situated on the Grand Canal with its quaint cottages, canals and renowned classical Chinese gardens.

Wednesday, 7 Sept HK – Shanghai

KA # 802 (8:00a.m. - 10:25a.m.) (Dragonair)
Arrive Shanghai & transfer to hotel. After lunch at local restaurant, tour Shanghai Museum (guided by the director).
Dinner at local restaurant followed by evening tour of former French quarter.

Thursday, 8 Sept Shanghai – Suzhou – Shanghai

A day excursion tour to Suzhou – boat ride at the ancient canal, tour to Humble Administrator's Garden and Lin's Grove with lunch at local restaurant. Visit the Silk Institute/Museum.
Return to Shanghai and dine at local restaurant.
Evening tour of the former French quarter.

Friday, 9 Sept Shanghai – Hong Kong

Morning shopping at antique street. Return to hotel & check-out. Lunch at Lubaolong Restaurant. Afternoon tour to Yu Yuan and old city. Transfer to airport. Shanghai/Hong Kong
KA 870 (8:25p.m. – 10:55p.m.)

Trip Cost:

Approx. **HK \$5,850.00** per person (twin sharing), based on 16 participants.
Single surcharge HK\$ 1,030.00
Non-member surcharge HK\$ 500.00

Inclusive of:

HK-Shanghai-HK Dragonair economy ticket
2 nights hotel accommodation with breakfast at Hotel Equatorial (4-star hotel)
Meals as noted in itinerary.
Sightseeing tour with English speaking guide by exclusive private coach.
Gratuities to local guide and driver.

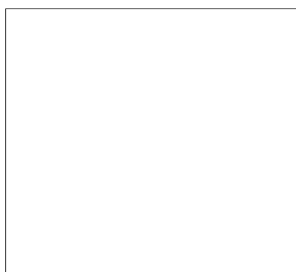
...Asian Tours

Airport tax, Hong Kong security fee and airline fuel surcharge
0.3% TIC levy

Price excludes:

China visa fee; travel insurance; personal & other expenses such as laundry & bar bills

*Vairocana at
Longmen Grottoes*



**LOYANG, ZHENGZHOU &
KAIFENG** - Ancient Chinese capitals
& Buddhist caves.

17 – 22 September 2005
3 days / 2 nights

Considered the cradle of Chinese civilization, in Henan Province, home to the Shang dynasty (1700 - 1100BC) and earlier settlements, we visit the 16th century BC capital Zhengzhou, now a typical Chinese provincial city on the fertile, often flood-ravaged, plains of the unruly Yellow River. Loyang, founded in 1200 BC, was capital of 10 dynasties until the Northern Song moved its capital to Kaifeng in the 10th century AD.

Join us as we take in the Shaolin Monastery, thought to have been founded in the 5th century and one of China's most famous martial arts

schools. The 5th century Longmen grottoes, one of four UNESCO World heritage sites in China, reflect the peak of Buddhist art, and are a wonderful example of the integration of Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism which occurred at that time.

Saturday, 17 Sept

(HK - Zhengzhou – Loyang)

HK/Zhengzhou **CZ3074 (12: 40p.m – 2:50 p.m.)**

Upon arrival, drive about 3 hours to Loyang.

En route, visit the Kang's Manor. This 64,300 sq. metre mansion houses a family that has flourished for 12 generations. Check into Peony Hotel. This evening, be treated to an ancient royal banquet with 24 dishes.

Sunday, 18 Sept (Loyang)

For the energetic, rise early (7am) for a one-hour Tai Chi lesson. Visit the Longmen Grottoes, one of the 4 most famous Buddhist grottoes in China with over one hundred thousand Buddha figures in more than twenty three hundred niches carved into the hill.

After lunch, we visit the regional museum; White Horse Temple, the very first temple in China when Buddhism was introduced from India, and a cave dwelling. Dinner and overnight in the hotel.

Monday, 19 Sept (Loyang – Shaolin – Zhengzhou)

For the energetic, rise early (7am) for a one-hour Tai Chi lesson. Drive 1½ hours to Songshan Mountain to visit the famous Shaolin Temple, the number one Buddhist temple in China, where Shaolin Kung Fu originated. Today it is famous for its research and development of the Zen sect of Chinese Buddhism.

Visit the Forest of Pagodas and enjoy a martial arts show. After a vegetarian lunch, we visit

...Asian Tours

Zhongyue Temple and hike 1 hour up the Song Mountain. Continue driving to Zhengzhou & check into Crowne Plaza.

Tuesday, 20 Sept (Zhengzhou)

Visit the excellent Regional Museum & the Yellow River Museum and take a cruise on the Yellow River. This section marks the change from the river's middle reaches to lower reaches as well as the end of the Loess Plateau. Lunch in local restaurant & dinner in hotel.

Wednesday, 21 Sept (Zhengzhou – Kaifeng - Zhengzhou)

Drive 1 hour to Kaifeng, one of the ancient capitals of China. Visit Longting Park, pedestrian street re-created in Sung dynasty style, Shan Shaan Gan Guildhall, the Dragon Pavilion and Iron Pagoda. Have lunch and return to Zhengzhou for dinner and overnight.

Thursday, 22 Sept (Zhengzhou – HK)

Transfer to the airport for flight Zhengzhou/HK **CZ 3073 (9:00a.m. – 11:35a.m.)**

Trip Cost:

Approx. **HK \$8,590.00** per person (twin sharing), based on 16 participants.

Single surcharge HK\$ 1,755.00

Non-member surcharge HK\$ 500.00

Inclusive of:

Airfare HK/Zhengzhou/HK by China Southern;

All airport taxes;

Accommodation on twin share basis/ daily breakfast;

All meals including tips and 1 bottle of non-alcoholic beverages (or beer) per person per meal;

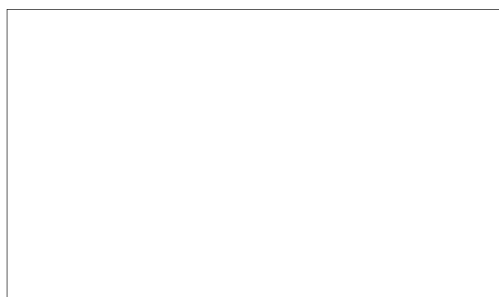
All tours & transfers in private air-con vehicle with ample supply of bottled mineral water;

English speaking guide; gratuities for guide & driver;

All entrance fees; porterages in airport and hotels.

Price excludes:

Visa; travel insurance; personal & other expenses, such as laundry and bar bills.



*Tsumago Village
on the Nakasendo Highway*

WALK JAPAN - Walk Along the Nakasendo Highway through the Mountains

**28 October – 6 November 2005
10 days / 9 nights**

This tour is for people who enjoy country walking. As we explore one of the old highways of Japan, the Nakasendo, we follow in the footsteps of the Samurai, passing through post towns well-preserved in their seventeenth century form, sleeping in little inns on tatami matting well away from the bustle of modern city life. This is the charm of the excursion: these traditional inns are not only hard to find, but virtually impossible for the average non-Japanese person to secure. The scenery is beautiful and we hope to catch the autumn colors in all their glory.

Walk Japan follows the most enjoyable, scenic and best preserved parts of the highway. Seventeenth century travellers insisted on a reasonably easy route for their journey and so do we. The daily walking distance is 10 -20 km, but transport is always close at hand for those who

...Asian Tours

require it. As we walk, our baggage goes by taxi but nevertheless will need to be kept small and manageable. At inns and stations, up stairs and across railroad tracks we must carry our own. There are no escalators or porters in the countryside! Along the highway we climb several passes, but they have gentle inclines and can be taken at a comfortable pace. Breakfast and dinner are in the Japanese style. Lunch is at our own expense, usually a short stop on the trail. Our guide speaks Japanese fluently and is with us at all times to answer questions along the way. This trip is restricted to 16, as the inns are small.

Friday, 28 Oct (HK/Kyoto)

Fly HK/ Osaka **CX 506 (10:05a.m. – 2:45p.m.)**
Take the Haruka express train to Kyoto, arriving about 5p.m. After checking into our hotel, we will go out for dinner.

Saturday, 29 Oct (Hikone – Sekigahara)

We will board a bus and visit the I.M. Pei-designed Miho Museum set into the mountains east of Lake Biwa. Proceed to Hikone castle town, including the castle's museum & gardens. Hikone was the home of the Li family, prominent supporters of the Tokugawa shoguns. The city still reflects the original design & purposes of a feudal castle: power, authority & control mixed with a highly developed urban culture. At the end of the day, we will continue to our inn at Sekigahara, site of the battle (1600) at which the Tokugawa family established its supremacy.

Sunday, 30 Oct (Hosokute)

Proceed by train to the village of Mitake, an old post town on the Nakasendo highway. From Mitake, we will walk about 12 kilometers to the post town, Hosokute, through gently rolling foothills that rise out of the vast plain around the city of Nagoya.

Monday, 31 Oct (Ena)

Today is a fairly long walk (about 22 km) along a ridge of foothills, passing through the post town of Okute with its signature 1200 year old *sugi* (cryptomeria) tree, and over the Biwa Pass. At the end of the day, we descend into the valley around Ena city where we spend the night in a western-style hotel. There is a laundromat here.

Tuesday, 1 Nov (Ena - Nakatsugawa - Shinchaya)

Ena includes the Hiroshige Museum dedicated to the famous set of block prints eulogizing the Nakasendo highway, executed, of course, by Hiroshige & another artist. The museum displays a comprehensive variety of block prints, and demonstrates with videos, displays and hands-on demonstrations the way that the prints are made. Then on by train to Nakatsugawa for lunch and a visit, time permitting, to the historical museum before walking about 7 km to the small village of Shinchaya.

Wednesday, 2 Nov (Shinchaya – Magome - Otsumago)

Magome is just 1 km away from the Shinchaya inn and is a major tourist destination because it was the home town of Shimazaki Toson, Japan's first modern novelist. Shimazaki wrote *Before the Dawn*, a famous historical novel set in Magome. After lunch in Magome, we walk over a pass to Otsumago, about 7 km distant. It is a short walk from here to the better known Tsumago, with its authentic appearance of a Tokugawa-era post town. In the evening, we go to the hot spa at the top of the surrounding mountains.

Thursday, 3 Nov (Otsumago – Nagiso – Kiso-Fukushima)

This is our longest day of walking, about 23 km, through rising foothills arrayed beneath the 3000-metre southern Japanese alps. The

...Asian Tours

countryside is distinctly alpine with stunning scenery. At the end of the day, we board a train at Nojiri bound for Kiso-Fukushima, a regional centre for 300 years. The inn here is formal with employees serving a delicious meal. The inn's large baths are open 24 hrs a day.

Friday, 4 Nov (Kiso-Fukushima – Yabuhara – Narai)

After visiting the reconstructed barrier station, we board a train for Yabuhara & the walk over Torii Pass to the post town of Narai. Although the hike is only 3 or 4 hours, it is steadily uphill to the pass at 1100 m, then down to Narai which is an excellently preserved post town. The inn is commodious with large, hot baths and great food!

Saturday, 5 Nov (Narai - Kyoto)

After a leisurely morning, we will return by train to Kyoto & check in to our original hotel before going out to dinner.

Sunday, 6 Nov (Kyoto - HK)

Osaka/HK **CX 503 (6:10p.m. – 9:00p.m.)** .
As the flight to HK is in the evening, we have time to loiter in Kyoto's shops or temples, shrines & museums. Those who wish may be accompanied by the guide to the Eastern sector of Kyoto which abounds in cultural sites.

Trip Cost:

Approx. **HK \$18,500.00** a person (twin sharing)
Cost based on 16 participants.

No Single rooms available

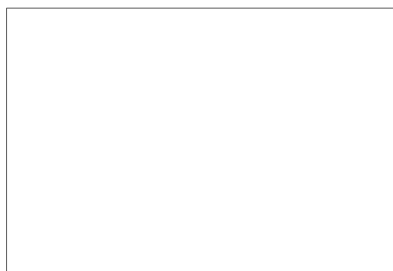
Non-member surcharge HK\$ 500.00

Inclusive of:

Airfare HK/Osaka/HK by Cathay Pacific;
All HK airport taxes;
Train ticket on express train to Kyoto
Accommodation with daily breakfast & evening meal;
English speaking guide; Gratuities for guide;
All entrance fees

Price excludes:

Visa; Travel insurance;
Lunch each day; personal & other expenses.



Ankor Wat

Cambodia & Ho Chi Minh City —

Up river from the Mekong Delta

To Phnom Penh

19-27 November 2005

9 Days/8 Nights

Experience the bustle of Ho Chi Minh city (Saigon) before we make our way to the Mekong Delta, rice basket of the nation, buzzing with a slow but constant energy, awash with vibrant colour. We take to the water in a chartered boat for the trip up the Mekong to Phnom Penh & our brush with the darker side of Cambodian history. Then on to Siem Reap and the wonder of Angkor Wat and the surrounding temples, the highlight of the Khmer civilization and architecture.

In the 8th C, the mighty kingdom of Angkor embraced both the Hindu & Mahayana Buddhist influences from India. They built some of the most monumental stone temple structures on earth. While the greatest of these is Angkor Wat, hundreds of other temple sites provide an equally lasting testament to the artistic prowess and religious fervour of this fascinating civilization.

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Saturday 19 Nov (HK – Ho Chi Minh)

HK/Ho Chi Minh **CX 767 (9a.m.–10:35a.m.)**.

Upon arrival, transfer to Majestic for 2 nights. Lunch in local restaurant. This afternoon, we enjoy a tour of Saigon. Visit Notre Dame, the History Museum & a lacquerware factory. Explore Chinatown on a cyclo ride and have time for shopping in the Benh Thanh Market. This evening, be treated to a welcome dinner at Vietnam House, well known for its excellent cuisine.

Sunday 20 Nov (Ho Chi Minh)

Start the morning with Cu Chi Tunnel (1 hour's drive away) – an amazingly complex system of underground tunnels constructed by the Vietcong during the Vietnam war. After lunch in Tay Ninh, drive 2 hours back to Saigon. Late afternoon, time for shopping along the Le Loi Street outside your hotel with many art galleries and craft shops. Enjoy a French dinner at L'étoile in a French colonial building.

Monday 21 Nov (Ho Chi Minh - Chau Doc)

Drive about 6 hours from Saigon to Long Xuyen, right in the heart of the Mekong Delta. After lunch explore the labyrinth of rivers & tributaries – one moment it is quiet & peaceful deep in the rainforest and the next, bustling with life, boats & floating markets.

Check into Victoria Chau Doc, - dinner at the hotel.

Tuesday 22 Nov (Chau Doc – Phnom Penh)

Travel upriver towards the Cambodian border, enjoying more bustling scenes en route. Cross the border & continue 4-hour journey to Phnom Penh. Check into Micasa. Lunch at Friends Restaurant. Visit the Royal Palace & Silver Pagoda and also the shop of weaving master – Liv Sa Am. Enjoy dinner at the Foreign Correspondents' Club & a traditional show at Sovanna Phum Theatre.

Wednesday 23 Nov – (Phnom Penh – Siem Reap)

This morning, we deal with a dark chapter of Cambodian history as we visit sites related to the Khmer regime. Visit the notorious Tuol Sleng Museum and continue to the Killing Fields, with a memorial for the thousands who died during the regime. Lunch at Khmer Surin. In the afternoon, explore the Russian Market.

Airport transfer, Phnom Penh to Siem Reap

FT 996 (5:50p.m.-6:35p.m.)

Upon arrival, transfer to Grand Hotel D'angkor for 4 nights. Dinner at the hotel.

Thursday 24 Nov (Siem Reap)

We start with the oldest group of temples – the Roulous Group. Preah Ko (880), Bakong (881) and Lolei temples (893). Then we move on to Prasat Kravan (921), Srah Srang (about 967), Bantaey Kdei (about 12th century), Pre Rup (961) and Mebon Oriental (952).

Lunch at Chez Sophea. The whole afternoon is devoted to Angkor Wat itself, including detailed study of the bas reliefs of Hindu mythology and Khmer history.

Enjoy sunset in a quiet temple. Dinner at Orientalist.

Friday 25 Nov (Siem Reap)

Rise early for sunrise at Angkor Wat! Return to the hotel for breakfast.

Explore Angkor Thom, the site of the ancient capital of the Khmer period. Visit the South Gate (Late 12th century), Bayon (Late 12th to 13th century), Royal Enclosure (Late 10th to early 11th century), Elephant Terrace (Late 12th century) and the Terrace of Leper King (13th century). Ride the elephant from the South Gate of Angkor Thom to Bayon Temple.

Lunch at Dragon Soup. Afternoon, we drive about 45 min. to Tonle Sap Lake and enjoy a boat trip on the lake to see a floating village, the unique and ancient way of life on the water. Dinner at Madam Butterfly.

...Asian Tours

Saturday 26 Nov (Siem Reap)

Another stunning sunrise experience! Drive about 1 hour to Bantaey Srei (967). Many consider Bantaey Srei to be the prettiest temple. En route back, visit Bantaey Samre(12th century). Return to the hotel for breakfast. Late morning, you will have time to visit Artisan D'angkor and the Central Market. Lunch at Green House. Afternoon, visit the late 12th C Preah Khan Temple where much of *Tomb Raiders* was filmed. Then visit Ta Prohm (Late 12th to 13 C), which many consider to be the most charming of all the temples.

In the evening enjoy a traditional shadow puppet show which local people perform using coconut husks. Dinner at hotel in Grand Restaurant.

Sunday 27 Nov (Siem Reap – HO Chi Minh – HK)

Morning at leisure.

After lunch at hotel transfer to airport for flight Siem Reap/Ho Chi Minh **VN 826 1:20p.m. – 2:20p.m.** Saigon/HK **VN 762 5:15p.m.-8:55p.m.**

Trip Cost:

Approx. **HK \$15,990.00** per person (twin sharing), based on 16 participants.

Single surcharge HK \$ 5, 350

Non-member surcharge HK\$ 500.00

Inclusive of:

Airfare as stated plus all airport taxes;
Accommodation on twin share with daily breakfast;
All meals as stated with 1 bottle of non-alcoholic beverages or beer per person per meal;
All tours & transfers in private air-con vehicle;
English speaking guide and all entrance fees;
1 large bottle of mineral water per person per day;
Gratuities for guides and drivers

Price excludes

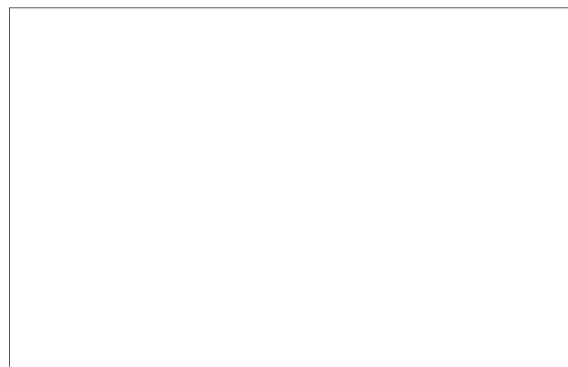
Visa; Travel insurance; Personal expenses such as laundry & alcoholic beverages.

Asian Tours Travel Policy: To reserve a space, please issue a check for HK\$3,000 or US\$400 made out to the Friends of the Art Museum CUHK Ltd. and mail together with completed tear sheet stating name as it appears on passport to:

Diana C. Williams, 1A Victoria Court, 56 Hing Fat Street, Causeway Bay, H. K.

e-mail: digor@netvigator.com

A \$1000 portion of the deposit (\$500 in the case of a 3-day trip) is non-refundable. Space is not reserved until deposit is received. Once airline deposits have been paid, the remaining portion of deposit becomes non-refundable as well. For overseas members, space can be reserved by faxing to Diana at 852-2882-4968 a copy of check & completed tear sheet. Cancellation less than 30 days before departure will result in non-refundable charges. **Cancellation less than 14 days before departure must be in writing and will result in a minimum 80% cancellation fee & for some airlines, no refund at all.**



**South India Tour Group
at Meenakshi Temple**

South India Tour Report

by Mary Rhine

Southern India's rich store of traditions are embodied in the myriad of temples from many schools and dynasties. Temple building is in itself an art, and has progressed from temporary wood structures to those built of more enduring stone which have withstood the ravages of time and tide. In February, 17 Friends toured the temples of Tamil Nadu, and learned more about this area's rich cultural mix of different people through the ages. Each person — including St. Thomas, Vasco Da Gama, and French and British colonial settlers left a legacy which combined to create the cultural mix which defines Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Christian churches, synagogues and the amazing Hindu temples attest to this legacy at every turn.

We started at Chennai (Madras) with a visit to the Museum to see the outstanding collection of bronzes. From there we journeyed to the 7th century Shore Temple and the Arjuna's Penance which contains the world's largest bas-relief of themes from Hindu mythology. Then on to the Brihadeeshwara Temple, the crowning glory of the 11th century Chola Dynasty, which amazed us with the richness of its architecture, sculpture and art. In Trichy we visited the Rock Fort with a Ganesha Temple on the top. The rock also contains cave temples dating to the 7th century.

For a change of pace we stopped in Pondicherry, and wandered the streets of the old French colonial town. The city, with its rich maritime history, was first visited by the Portuguese in 1521, to be followed in the 17th century by the Dutch and the Danes. They, in turn were succeeded by the French and the British and, eventually, the French again. Like a step back in time, the quiet streets are lined with elegant French colonial buildings.

The highlight of our temple tour was the vast and imposing Meenakshi Temple with a history dating back 2000 years. Its 12 temple towers are almost 50 meters high and covered with brightly colored statues. The temple is built in the Dravidian style – one part is for Lord Shiva and the other for his spouse Meenakshi. In the evening we witnessed the closing ceremony at the temple during which an image of Shiva is carried in procession to Meenakshi's bedroom.

With names of temples swimming in our heads, we headed to Kerala. We drove through tea plantations, stopped at a spice farm and, at Kottayam, visited two Syrian Christian churches which are over 700 years old. A network of rivers, canals and estuaries intertwines throughout Kerala, and during our cruise along the backwaters we saw tiny settlements of thatched houses nestling on minute plots of land.

On our final day in Cochin we visited St. Francis Xavier's church, built in 1510, where Vasco Da Gama was buried for 14 years. The highlight of Cochin was a sunset cruise. The sun setting behind the Chinese fishing nets was a sight never to be forgotten.

Many thanks to Diana for a magnificent journey with old and new Friends through a rich and ancient land.

Library News & Card Sales...

First The Good News...

The Friends Library is disposing of further duplicate holdings. The following items are available:

Shanghai Museum catalogue: Ancient Chinese Ceramics Gallery

Shanghai Museum catalogue: Ancient Chinese Jade Gallery

Shanghai Museum catalogue: Chinese Minority Nationalities' Art Gallery

A \$20HK donation to the Friends is suggested for each catalogue. Please contact Gillian Fox Email: gandd@netvigator.com) for further information.

Now The Sad News...

STILL Missing Books!

Please check your shelves – the following books are missing:

The Story of Carpets by Essie Sakhai

Chinese Snuff Bottles. Hong Kong Museum of Art Catalogue

Chinese Views – Western Perspectives 1770-1870, by Patrick Connor

The Tribal Eye: Antique Kilims of Anatolia, by Peter Davies

China's New Art, Post 1989 (Exhibition Catalogue), by Hanart TZ Gallery

Forbidden City Guide Book – Imperial Palace.

Yuan and Early Ming Blue-and-White Porcelain catalogue, by Eskanazi

Oriental Rugs: A Buyer's Guide, by Lee Allane.

Jingdezhen Wares: The Yuan Evolution, by The Oriental Ceramic Society of Hong Kong.



It Doesn't Take a



to Predict Your Future Holds

Farewells

&

Reunions

Why not stock up now on Friends' cards, notebooks, carry bags and other items. They make wonderful gifts and mementos. Friends' cards are currently available at three outlets:

**Asian Artworks Gallery
The Repulse Bay Arcade**

**Asian Artworks Gallery
2/F The Galleria
9 Queen's Road Central**

**Picture This
Suite 603B Office Tower
9 Queen's Road Central**

Community News...

TEAM TAI TAI SEEKS FRIENDS' SUPPORT

New York area FRIENDS Caroline Coulier, Anne Cripps, Suzanne Hudson, Winnie Phyfe and Gro Wood will join the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer on October 1-2, 2005.

They will spend the next five months training to prepare for an entire weekend's walk and have each committed to raise at least \$1,800.

If you would like to support them, any donation would be very much appreciated. The easiest way to contribute is on the internet with a credit card, but a team member can send you a form if you prefer not to give your information on the web.

[Visit My Avon Walk Page](#)

If the text above does not appear as a clickable link, you can visit the web address:

http://www.avonwalk.org/site/TR?px=1635248&fl=en_US&s_tafId=1226&pg=personal&fr_id=1131

[Click here to view the team page for Team Tai Tai](#)

If the text above does not appear as a clickable link, you can visit the web address:

http://www.avonwalk.org/site/TR?team_id=8350&fl=en_US&s_tafId=1226&pg=team&fr_id=1131



PART TIME STAFF WANTED

ASIAN CAJUN, LTD.

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Helen Giss, Managing Director
Telephone: 2817-3687
E-mail: gisser@pacific.net.hk

...Community News



Exhibition of Paintings by Vivianne Lachaud Meyer

Date: Thursday, 12 May
Time: 6pm-8pm
Place: China Tee Club, Pedder Street, Central

Friends' members are cordially invited to the preview of this exhibition.

Vivianne is a French painter whose work has been exhibited in Hong Kong, Paris and the South of France. She studied under several Chinese artists, and her work represents a synthesis of Chinese techniques and western accents.

The exhibition will run till the end of June. Sales are for the benefit of "Enfants du Mékong", a French charity which supports impoverished children throughout South East Asia and focuses on getting them an education.

Enquiries: 2522-9441

The Hong Kong Women's Choir Presents:

That's Entertainment!

Date: Friday, 20 May 2005
Time: 7:30pm
Place: Government House
Cost: \$350



All proceeds will go to *The Society for Community Organization*

Enquiries: Call Lucy 9122-1050

e-mail: novachoir@hotmail.com

Tearsheets

Please send a **Separate Cheque and Tearsheet for each event.**

- Make cheques payable to: **Friends of the Art Museum, CUHK Ltd.**
- Please write your name, telephone number and activity on the back of your cheque.
- Send the cheque and tearsheet to the **organiser listed on the same page as the description of the activity.**
- Your reservation is confirmed unless advised otherwise, in which case your cheque will be destroyed.
- Refunds (except travel deposits) will be given for cancellations up to seven days before the event.

Please note that your membership number is on your membership card and on the newsletter envelope label.

Friends: Activities Tearsheet

Activity: _____ Date: _____

Amount enclosed:HK\$ _____ Bank/Cheque Number: _____

Name: _____ Membership Number: _____

Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

Home Phone/Mobile: _____

Friends: Activities Tearsheet

Activity: _____ Date: _____

Amount enclosed:HK\$ _____ Bank/Cheque Number: _____

Name: _____ Membership Number: _____

Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

Home Phone/Mobile: _____

Friends: Asian Tours Tearsheet

Trip: _____ Today's Date: _____

Name as in Passport: _____ Membrsp. No. _____

Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____ Tel: _____

I require a single room at extra rate. YES/NO

I have read and agree to the Travel Policy Terms & Conditions as stated herein.

Signed: _____

Art Museum Hours:

Monday-Saturday, 10am-4:45pm; **Sunday**, 12:30pm-5:30pm. **Closed Public Holidays**

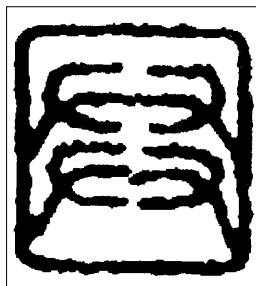
Friends' Library Hours: **Monday-Saturday**, 10am-4:45pm. **Closed Public Holidays**

Driving Directions to CUHK:

Take Eastern tunnel and follow signs to Shatin. Drive through Tate's Cairn Tunnel, get in left lane and turn off at second road to the left. Follow signs to Shatin central. Continue along this road; again go left to Shatin central. Right away, get into right lane and turn right at traffic lights. This road leads to Taiipo Road. Go straight until you see sign overhead indicating University. Exit left and at roundabout bear right. Go straight and take right at second university entrance (Main). At gate you will be issued parking ticket. First 30 minutes of parking free, thereafter \$10 per hour. Drive 200 yards past gate. Parking lot is on right, Art Museum is on left. Surrender card and pay at gate when leaving.

Public Transportation to CUHK

Hop on train heading for University KCR station (25 minutes from Kowloon). Turn right when leaving the station to reach University shuttle bus making regular runs to Art Museum. Alight at library (second stop); walk straight to Institute of Chinese Studies building, just past large Tai Chi sculpture. There is a large pond in front of the Art Museum. To return, catch bus on lower side of the Art Museum.



The Friends of the Art Museum, The Chinese University of Hong Kong Limited was founded in 1981 to promote the study and appreciation of Chinese art and culture. It sponsors lectures by resident and visiting experts and organises study groups and tours. Through its fund-raising activities, the Friends provides scholarships and internships to Fine Arts students and augments the acquisition fund of the Art Museum at CUHK.

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