FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Our fall exhibition, **Virtual Journeys: Chinese Buddhist Art and Architecture in the Digital Era** (September 12–December 15, 2018), explores the hundreds of caves and cave temples that were painstakingly carved out of rock cliffs from the 4th century through to the 14th century. Where else but at the Charles B. Wang Center could you experience such an amazing connection across times, continents, and cultures? The walls and ceilings of these caves are decorated with beautifully elaborate paintings depicting stories of the Buddha, Buddhist sutras, and ornamental designs. Medieval China will come alive through VR right before your eyes! We are thrilled that you will be able to explore the depth and marvels of Chinese cultural heritage with the latest advancements in digital technology.

We have also continued our collaborations with the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature to host the Human Rights Film Festival, and with the Faculty Student Association and the Center for Indian Studies in celebration of **Diwali**.

I hope you will visit us and attend our public programs this season. I look forward to welcoming you.

With kind regards,

Jinyoung Jin

Director of Cultural Programs
# FALL ’18 EXHIBITIONS

## OPENING RECEPTION

**Thursday, 9/27 | 5 PM | Skylight Gallery**

## VIRTUAL JOURNEYS:
**CHINESE BUDDHIST ART AND ARCHITECTURE IN THE DIGITAL ERA**

**ON VIEW 9/12–12/15**
Skylight Gallery, Zodiac Gallery

## SIMPLICITY OVER COMPLEXITY

**BY JONGIL MA**
Long-term Installation
Wang Center Outdoor Garden

## SPACE DRAWING

**BY SUN K. KWAK**
Long-term Installation
Theatre Gallery

## ZEN ROCK GARDEN

Long-term Installation
Wang Center Outdoor Garden

## EXPLORE HISTORY OBJECTS FROM ASIA

## LECTURE, FILMS, & OTHER PROGRAMS

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OPENING RECEPTION
THURS, SEPT 27 at 5 PM

Skylight Gallery
Free and Open to the Public
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

VIRTUAL JOURNEYS:
CHINESE BUDDHIST ART
AND ARCHITECTURE IN
THE DIGITAL ERA

Skylight Gallery, Zodiac Gallery

Virtual Journeys: Chinese Buddhist Art and Architecture in the Digital Era is an innovative exhibition that uses VR technology to transport you to China to admire and explore Buddhist cave art. It showcases five famous ancient Buddhist sites of China: the Dunhuang Grottoes, the Dazu Rock Carvings, the Kailuasi Monastery, the Yungang Grottoes, and the Longmen Grottoes.

From the 4th through 14th centuries, hundreds of caves were painstakingly carved out of the cliffsides by hand, all under the sponsorship of Buddhist monks, local officials, and wealthy families who wished to accrue karmic merit and perform acts of veneration. These decorated cave walls and ceilings are covered with elaborate paintings that depict stories of the Buddha, Buddhist sutras, ornamental designs, scenes of social and commercial life, and portraits of the projects’ sponsors. The caves also contain brightly painted clay sculptures of the Buddha and other figures, the largest sculpture being over 100 feet tall. Unfortunately, many artifacts and places of ancient Chinese cultural heritage are disappearing for reasons not limited to natural disasters. The erosion of time, human destruction, war, urban development, expanding tourism, and lack of preservation technologies for excavated archaeological findings all contribute to an ongoing erasure of a fascinating past.

With rapid developments in computer science and achievements in the fields of graphic technology, digital image processing, and artificial intelligence, this exhibition celebrates the potential impact of VR on art, culture, education, and curatorial practice and provides new opportunities to conserve, restore, and research our historical past.

RELATED PROGRAMS

VIRTUAL REALITY DEMO | 
CHINESE BUDDHIST ART AND 
ARCHITECTURE IN THE DIGITAL ERA | 
WEDNESDAYS, 
SEPTEMBER 12–DECEMBER 15, 12 PM | 
SKYLIGHT GALLERY

SYMPOSIUM | 
VIRTUAL JOURNEYS: CHINESE BUDDHIST ART 
AND ARCHITECTURE IN THE DIGITAL ERA | 
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 12 PM | THEATRE 
(PAGES 16–17)

ART CRAWL | GUIDED EXHIBITION TOUR | 
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1:30 PM | 
ZODIAC GALLERY (PAGES 20–21)

Special thanks to Dr. Di Luo (Wake Forest University), Dr. Wu-Wei Chen (NYU Shanghai), Dr. Jianwei Zhang (Peking University), Dr. Fletcher John Coleman (Harvard University), Dr. Changyu Diao (Zhejiang University), Dunhuang Academy, the Longmen Grottoes Research Institute, and the Yungang Grottoes Research Institute in China.

The exhibition is curated by Jinyoung Jin, Director of Cultural Programs, Charles B Wang Center, and co-organized by the China Center/Confucius Institute at Stony Brook University.

ON VIEW

SEPTEMBER 12 – DECEMBER 15, 2018
Image credit: Courtesy of the Longmen Grottoes Research Institute
SIMPLICITY OVER COMPLEXITY

Outdoor Garden

Brooklyn-based Korean American artist Jongil Ma revives the Charles B. Wang Center’s outdoor garden with architecturally woven sculptures, using varying lengths and types of thin wooden strips, both in their raw state and dyed in color. Three large, site-specific installations balance the positive with the negative, tranquility with tension, and stillness with movement. The installations interact with the Wang Center’s architecture and spatial dynamics, transforming the garden through a multiplicity of viewing possibilities.
SPACE DRAWING

BY SUN K. KWAK

New York-based Korean American artist Sun K. Kwak’s canvas is architectural space and her primary medium is black masking tape. Kwak achieves the effect of painterly strokes by tearing away the tape from the surfaces of architectural spaces. Her sprawling freehand strokes weave designs over surfaces to dramatic effect. Kwak has created a site-specific installation at the Charles B. Wang Center with lines that liberate the space, and in doing so, transforms the space into a new pictorial reality.

The Charles B. Wang Center thanks Shurtape for its in-kind donation of materials in support of this exhibition.
Located on the first floor, in between the meeting rooms 101 and 102 at the Charles B. Wang Center, this Japanese rock garden (枯山水 karesansui) was created by Gerard Senese and his wife Hiroko Uraga-Senese as a tribute to the appreciation of Japanese culture. Japanese gardens are rich with symbolism, and they are usually created with certain meanings and wishes in mind. The Wang Center’s Zen garden features symbols of Buddhist paradises with a tortoise islet (kame-jima) and a crane islet (tsuru-jima). Made with rocks, the tortoise symbolizes prosperity and the crane symbolizes health and good luck.

Visit the garden as a place for quiet contemplation.
SUFI SONGS OF LOVE
BY AMIR VAHAB

Amir Vahab is one of New York’s most celebrated and distinguished composers and vocalists of Sufi and folk music. He sings with a uniquely mystical style, weaving together Persian, Turkish, and Azeri instrumentals and songs set to 13th–14th century poetry from Rumi, Hafiz, Baba Taher, and Yunus Emre. The repertoire of Amir Vahab and his ensemble is grounded in traditional Persian poetry and music, long known for its power to transport listeners to heightened spiritual states through melody, improvisation, and rhythm.

JAPANESE BAMBOO FLUTE

Playing the Japanese bamboo flute (shakuhachi) is a quintessential Zen art, blending moment by moment awareness with deep relaxation. The instrument has ancient origins in China, and arrived with Zen Buddhism to Japan during the Tang Dynasty. The shakuhachi master Daniel Nyohaku Soergel will capture the spirit of emptiness and deliver a truly unique sound and experience in the Wang Center’s Zen Rock Garden. Soergel’s performance name, “Nyohaku” (the essence of purity), was given to him by his teachers to reflect the spiritual nature of his performance.
SEPT 27 at 12 PM
Theatre
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

VIRTUAL JOURNEYS: CHINESE BUDDHIST ART AND ARCHITECTURE IN THE DIGITAL ERA

12:00–12:20 OPENING REMARKS
Digital tour of the Yungang Grottoes, by Dr. Zhuo Zhang (Yungang Grottoes Research Institute) & Dr. Changyu Diao (Zhejiang University)

12:20–12:50 VIRTUAL REALITY DEMO | CHINESE BUDDHIST ART AND ARCHITECTURE IN THE DIGITAL ERA | WEDNESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 12–DECEMBER 15, 12 PM | SKYLIGHT GALLERY
Fragments and Traces: Reconstituting the Central Binyang Cave of the Longmen Grottoes, by Dr. Fletcher John Coleman (University of Notre Dame)

1:20–1:30 BREAK

1:30–2:00 TOUCHING THE PAST: DISCOVERING AND TURNING HISTORICAL BUILDINGS INTO A DIGITAL DATABASE, by Dr. Jianwei Zhang (Peking University)

2:00–2:30 DIGITAL TOUR OF THE DUNHUANG GROTTOES AND THE DAZU ROCK CARVINGS, by Dr. Wu-Wei Chen (NYU Shanghai)

2:30–3:00 CULTURAL HERITAGE IN DUNHUANG CONVEYED IN DIGITAL MEDIA: CREATING THE ANIMATION FOR CAVE 254 OF THE MOGAO CAVES, by Qi Chen and Haitao Chen (Dunhuang Academy)

3:00–3:30 THE GOD’S EYE VIEW: HOW DOES DIGITAL VISUALITY CREATE KNOWLEDGE?, by Dr. Di Luo (Wake Forest University)

3:30–4:00 Q&A SESSION AND BREAK

5:00–7:00 OPENING RECEPTION
OCT 10 at 4 PM

Theatre
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

BUILDING THE FUTURE OF ASIAN FOOD CULTURE

By Danielle Chang, host of Lucky Chow

In this wide-ranging lecture, Danielle Chang will discuss the intersection of Asian identity, food culture, and entrepreneurship. She will also share a sneak-peek of a segment for the national PBS series Lucky Chow that features the Wang Center; read an excerpt from her book Lucky Rice, which is about finding identity and culture through Asian food; and speak to the Stony Brook academic community about the power of voice and cultural entrepreneurship.
ART CRAWL
A GUIDED TOUR OF CAMPUS GALLERIES

OCT 24 at 1:30 PM
Tour of the Charles B. Wang Center, Zuccaire Gallery, University Libraries Special Collections, and Simons Center Gallery.

1:30 PM Charles B. Wang Center
2:00 PM Zuccaire Gallery
2:30 PM University Libraries Special Collections
3:00 PM Simons Center Gallery
3:30 PM Reception, Simons Center Gallery

Stony Brook University is host to a variety of renowned art galleries that provide unique environments and opportunities for cultural and artistic exchanges and collaborations. Our art crawls unite our university’s galleries through a series of free, guided tours led by expert curators. This initiative directly supports the university’s commitment to celebrating diversity and promotes the university’s place in the global community. Each art crawl will offer tours of three to four galleries, visiting each for about 30 minutes, before ending with a reception.

The Charles B. Wang Center will offer a VR tour of the current exhibit, Virtual Journeys: Chinese Buddhist Art and Architecture in the Digital Era, at 1:30 PM.

Art Crawl is funded by the Presidential Mini-Grant for Departmental Diversity.

Free Admission | Advance reservation is required.
RSVP at thewangcenter.org
WORKSHOPS

URBAN CANNING: HOMEMADE CHUTNEY

OCT 24 at 1 PM

Chapel
Admission: $20 (General)
$15 (Students/Seniors)

Limited to 30 people.
Advance reservation is required.
Tickets at thewangcenter.org

By Laena McCarthy, founder and CEO of Anarchy in a Jar

In this demonstration-based workshop, you’ll learn the simple steps to making homemade jam, from cooking and jelling to processing and sealing. This workshop will also cover the tools and tricks of food preservation, food safety and shelf-life, sugar-free methods, and an overview of the history of canning. Finally, we’ll sample the delicious fruits of our labor, tasting the plum chutney we’ve made as a group. You will also receive recipes, tips, and a four-ounce jar of chutney to take home.

ANARCHY IN A JAR

Image credit: Courtesy of Anarchy in a Jar
TRADITIONAL JAPANESE GIFT WRAPPING: FUROSHIKI

By Prof. Eva Nagase, Lecturer of the Department of Asian & Asian American Studies

A furoshiki is a traditional Japanese cloth used to wrap all sorts of objects, often in elaborate shapes. In Japanese culture, the furoshiki functions as a method of communication, with its many knots and ties representing the bonds between people. Commonly used to pack lunches and wrap gifts, furoshiki is a fun and eco-friendly way to wrap your holiday gifts. Join us to learn how to use cloth to wrap a gift for that someone special!

NOV 2 at 3 PM

Chapel
Admission: $20 (General)
$15 (Students/Seniors)
Limited to 30 people. Advance reservation is required.
Tickets atthewangcenter.org
NOV 14 at 3 PM

Chapel & Main Lobby
3:00–4:30 PM Lecture and demonstration
4:30–7:00 PM Procession and reception

Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

DRESS UP!
TRADITIONAL KOREAN WEDDING GARMENTS

The workshop will offer a hands-on experience of the traditional Korean costume, the hanbok, in particular those used in wedding ceremonies. A master artisan and a scholar of traditional Korean dress will discuss the cultural significance of the elegant garments and the wedding ceremonies that are still practiced in Korea today. Participants will also learn the meanings behind the colors, embroidery, forms, and symbols used in hanbok.

The workshop will be followed by a traditional Korean wedding procession in which participants will take part. Volunteers will receive traditional Korean souvenirs. Sign up if you are interested!

The workshop is sponsored by the Hanbok Advancement Center of the Korean Craft and Design Foundation in South Korea.

Courtesy of the Hanbok Advancement Center
PERSIAN MULBERRY CONFECTIONS:
A SWEET INTRO TO PERSIAN COOKING

Azita Houshiar is an Iranian American writer, illustrator, and cooking instructor who will share her knowledge of Persian food and culture by offering a hands-on culinary workshop. In this class, you will be taught how to make a delightful Persian sweet called tut. This staple confection is often offered at weddings, celebrations, and other festive gatherings. It is a bite-sized nibble made with ground almonds, sugar, cardamom, and rosewater mixed into a dough and formed into the shape of a mulberry. The ingredients are few and simple, and the end result is a beautiful, decidedly toothsome treat!

DEC 7 at 1 PM

Chapel
Admission: $20 (General)
$15 (Students/Seniors)
Limited to 30 people. Advance reservation is required.
Tickets at thewangcenter.org
THE CHINESE EXCLUSION ACT

People across the United States are wondering about the history of U.S. immigration laws and how we got to where we are today. *The Chinese Exclusion Act* tells the story behind about a little-known 1882 law that helped form ideas relevant to today’s heated conversations around American identity, democracy, and civil rights. For 61 years, Chinese people were barred from immigrating to the United States and were denied citizenship. The exclusion law was eventually expanded to bar all Asians. By examining the socioeconomic and geopolitical forces that led to the act, the film uncovers its unmistakable and wide-ranging consequences on national attitudes towards race, culture, politics, and society. Using historical documents, testimonies, and insights from leading scholars, *The Chinese Exclusion Act* explores the history of Chinese immigration to the United States and its significance to current issues of globalization, immigration, labor, and civil rights.

(2017 | 35 minutes | Documentary | Directed by Ric Burns and Li-Shin Yu)

SEPT 12 at 1 PM

Theatre
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

Discussion and Q&A led by Prof. Peggy Christoff, Senior Lecturer of College of Arts and Sciences, and Dr. Lee Bitsöi, Chief Diversity Officer.
A CAMBODIAN SPRING
(2017 | 120 minutes | Documentary | In Central Khmer, with English subtitles | Directed by Chris Kelly)

A Cambodian Spring is an intimate and unique portrait of three people caught up in the chaotic and often violent developments shaping modern-day Cambodia. Shot over a six-year period, the film charts the growing wave of land-rights protests that led to the “Cambodian Spring” and the tragic events that followed. At its heart, this film is about the complexities—both political and personal—of fighting for what you believe in.

The film is presented as a part of the Human Rights Film Festival by the Department of English, and the Global Citizenship and World Literature Project and funded by the Presidential Mini-grant for Departmental Diversity.

Discussion and Q&A to follow.

SEPT 19 at 1 PM

Theatre
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

INTENTION (그날, 바다)
(2018 | 115 minutes | Documentary | In Korean, with English subtitles | Directed by Ji-Young Kim)

This documentary recounts the Sewol Ferry Disaster of 2014, an event that resulted in over 300 casualties and inflicted trauma to the national psyche of South Korea. So momentous was this disaster, it led to remarkable political change and the eventual impeachment of South Korean president Geun-hye Park. But this documentary isn’t solely about the mourning of the victims or the political and social ramifications of the tragedy. It also details the four-year-long scientific investigation to uncover the truth behind the disaster. What really happened that day out at sea?

The film is presented as a part of the Human Rights Film Festival by the Department of English, and the Global Citizenship and World Literature Project and funded by the Presidential Mini-grant for Departmental Diversity.

Discussion and Q&A led by the film’s director, Ji-Young Kim and its producer, Jin-a Choi.

OCT 13 at 5 PM

Theatre
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

The film will tour to Queens College (October 14) and the University of Pennsylvania (October 15).
LESBIAN FACTORY

(2010 | 57 minutes | Documentary | Directed by Susan Chen)

The documentary follows a group of Filipina migrant worker activists and their tumultuous same-sex relationships while abroad. The project grew out of the long-time collaboration of Filipina migrants with the Taiwan International Workers’ Association. Lesbian Factory brings together migrant labor activism and queer love to unpack the complex and multi-layered texture of our globalized moment.

The film is presented as a part of the Human Rights Film Festival by the Department of English, and the Global Citizenship and World Literature Project and funded by the Presidential Mini-grant for Departmental Diversity.

Discussion and Q&A led by the filmmaker Jing-ru Wu and the film’s producer Teri Silva.

NOV 29 at 4 PM

Theatre
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org
CommUniversity Day is a free, campus-wide open house designed to showcase the best of Stony Brook University and to build better campus and community relations. As part of this event, the Wang Center will offer a tour of our current main exhibit, *Virtual Journeys: Chinese Buddhist Art and Architecture in the Digital Era*, which explores hundreds of Buddhist caves and cave temples in China and the art and history within them using virtual reality technology.

**OFFERED PROGRAMS BY THE CHARLES B. WANG CENTER:**

**12–4 PM**


Academic Mall at Stony Brook University
**DIWALI: LIGHTS UP!**

*Diwali* is a festival of lights that marks the victory of good over evil in Hindu mythology. This joyous festival is celebrated by South Asians all over the world and is India’s most important holiday. People celebrate and wish for blessings of good fortune by lighting millions of lamps and exchanging sweets. Please join us for a *puja* (a traditional worship ritual) and our procession of lights, followed by Indian sweets.

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**NOV 9 at 5:30 PM**

Zodiac Gallery Lobby
- 5:30–6:30 PM  Worship ritual
- 6:30–7:00 PM  Light procession

Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

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**THE MATTOO CENTER FOR INDIA STUDIES**
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