

PASSPORT

SPRING / SUMMER 2024

ENTER
AN ERA OF
IMAGINATION





Miao: Masters of Silver



Gemstone Carvings:
The Masterworks of Harold Van Pelt



California Bounty:
Image and Identity, 1850–1930



Sacred Realms: Buddhist Paintings
by Shashi Dhoj Tulachan
from the Gayle and Edward P. Roski Collection



Spirits and Headhunters:
Art of the Pacific Islands



Ancient Arts of China:
A 5,000 Year Legacy



First Californians



Ceramics of Western Mexico



California Legacies:
Missions and Ranchos (1768-1848)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dr. Seán O'Harrow

Aloha! Please let me start by thanking you all for your incredible support and participation in our most recent shows: art by the world-famous Japanese print-maker Katsushika Hokusai, in partnership with the British Museum, and the remarkable photography collection of Peter Fetterman from Santa Monica. The end of 2023 saw many exciting events at the Museum and 2024 is shaping up to be yet another successful year of artistic offerings, thanks to all of you!

Asian Comics: Evolution of an Art Form will bring to people of all generations the fascinating history of illustrated stories, from Japanese prints to Hindu scroll painting, from printed comic books to contemporary video games. Internationally renowned comics expert Paul Gravett has curated a visual feast from all over Asia, including artists from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, North Korea, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Tibet, and Vietnam. In addition to an engaging, multi-dimensional gallery presentation, the Museum is hosting numerous artist events, talks, films, and hands-on community activities on this global art phenomenon.

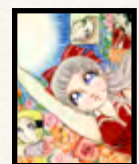
This popular offering to an expanded public audience seemed to be a perfect opportunity to reach out to more people, and so over the spring and summer, we are promoting free general admission to all Santa Ana residents, with the hope that families can visit when the children are home during their breaks from school. Since our facility is owned by the City of Santa Ana, and we also receive generous support from the council, it makes sense that we can provide access to city residents throughout the week.

Finally, with our new Chief Curator, Dr Tianlong Jiao, onboard as of December 2023, we are looking to update and expand our permanent collections in the historic wing and north galleries, to provide even more relevant and interesting material to visitors and students. So, make sure to keep an eye out for a variety of changes and new masterpieces on display throughout 2024!

Thank you again so much for your support and for participating in our many activities. We could not do any of this without you, and I look forward to seeing you at another Museum event soon!

Mahalo nui loa,

Seán O'Harrow, Ph.D.
President & CEO



NEW ACQUISITION

Exception to the Yam: A Wooden Abelam Helmet Mask



For Papua New Guinea's Abelam culture, masks are more often made for yams than men. Seven months out of each year are spent ceremonially competing to produce the longest yams, which can grow up to a length of twelve feet. The yams are then decorated with masks and an array of other adornments and exchanged with trade partners.

This rare mask is something of an outlier. Most Abelam yam masks are made of wickerwork, and masks that are worn by Abelam men during ceremonies tend to be larger in scale but are otherwise similar in materials and design to yam masks. This mask is made of wood, but still bears some elements that appear in yam masks. For example, a dog-tooth ornament worn by important men is translated here and in some yam masks as a diadem-shaped ridge. The holes at the bottom of the mask would have been used to attach a sago leaf body covering, and the broken finial may have originally been used to secure a feather headdress. It was instead perhaps worn to take on the role of an important ancestor during exclusive ceremonies.

Helmet Mask, early 20th Century
Abelam culture; Maprik area, East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea
Wood and pigment; 18 x 10 1/2 x 15 in.
2023.2.4
Gift of Peter and Signe Keller

Image courtesy of Michael Hamson



ASIAN COMICS

EVOLUTION OF AN ART FORM

MAR 9 - SEPT 8, 2024





A MESSAGE FROM PAUL GRAVETT,
CURATOR OF *ASIAN COMICS:*
EVOLUTION OF AN ART FORM

Osamu Tezuka (1928-1989), the creator of *Astro Boy*, revered in Japan as their 'God of Manga', firmly believed, 'Comics is an international language that can cross boundaries and generations. Comics is a bridge between all cultures.' It is in this spirit that The Bowers Museum is offering visitors the chance to experience *Asian Comics: Evolution of an Art Form*, the largest and most varied exhibition so far of comics from over twenty countries in the region.

In the USA, manga made in Japan are by far the most familiar type from Asia, but the medium is also dynamic elsewhere, delivering powerful graphic novels or addictive digital webtoons, several of them adapted into films and television series, both live action and animated, that have become international successes. Their multimedia influence has also spread still farther to the worlds of music, fashion, fine art and technology.

Asian Comics is an invitation to explore and stimulate your curiosity. As well as discovering the exquisite

original artworks crafted by gifted cartoonists in inks, paints and pixels, you will also have the chance to go behind the scenes and discover scripts, layouts and other stages that lead their creators to the finished pages. Additionally, precious printed comics, magazines and books will be on display, many never shown here before. This medium also comes in other surprising forms, such as India's traditional painted scrolls and portable shrines.

Rather than separating these exhibits by country of origin, *Asian Comics* presents them side-by-side and organised into six thematic sections, to reveal both connections and contrasts and their shared histories, faiths and folklore. Tezuka understood the power of comics, because he always knew how much story and emotion can be conveyed clearly to everyone in their pictures alone.

Paul Gravett
Barbican Guest Curator

Images, from top-left, clockwise: © Is Yuniarto. © Keiichi Tanaami, courtesy of the artist and NANZUKA. *Blood and Flowers* (HarperCollins India), Amruta Patil, 2017. *The Kaavad Tradition of Rajasthan A portable pilgrimage* © Nina Sabnani. The *Asian Comics: Evolution of an Art Form* exhibition is curated and organized by the Barbican Centre. The City of London Corporation is the founder and principal funder of the Barbican Centre.

barbican





FREE

SANTA ANA

SUMMER

In celebration of our newest exhibition,
Asian Comics: Evolution of an Art Form,
all Santa Ana residents will receive FREE General Admission
and pay only \$10 for the special ticketed exhibition
Asian Comics March 9 – September 8!

Discover the vibrant world of *Asian Comics* for only \$10
and explore a unique cultural experience right in your own city.
JOIN US for a season of color, creativity, and community!



FINAL FRIDAYS

Enjoy extended hours and special after-hours programming
4 - 8 pm every final Friday of the month
March 9 – September 8.

ARRIVE IN COSPLAY

and not only will you get **FREE General Admission**,
but you'll also gain **exclusive access to our *Asian Comics:
Evolution of an Art Form* exhibition** for just \$10!

Join us for these **special extended hours**
and dive into a world where art and imagination collide.

Cosplay restrictions apply. Visit bowers.org/comics for details.

EXPLORE THE WORLD of **ASIAN COMICS**



shop.bowers.org

SAVE THE DATE

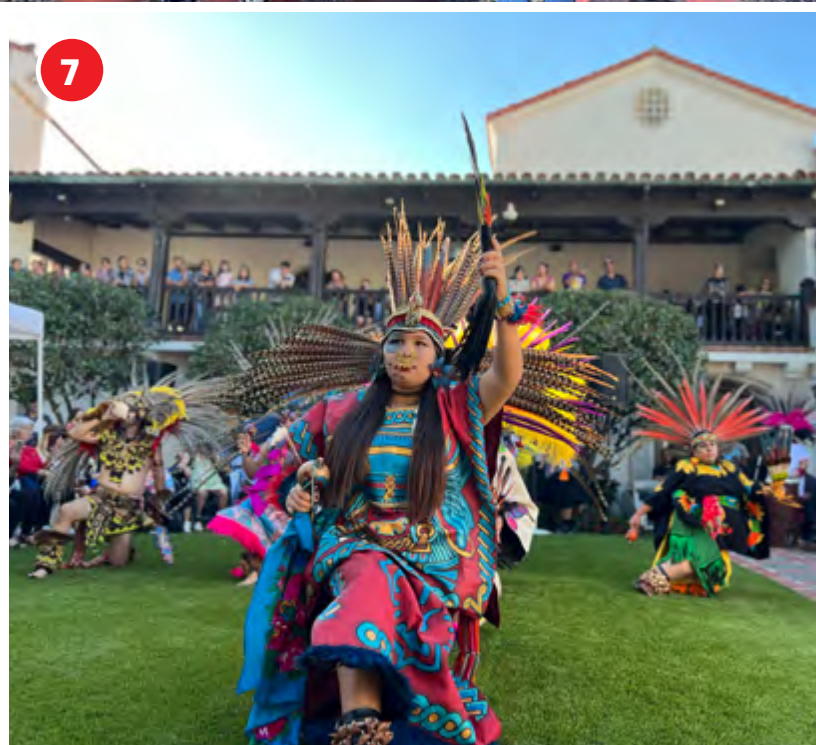
*Exclusive
Members
Celebration*

**ASIAN
COMICS**

EVOLUTION OF AN ART FORM

FRIDAY | MARCH 8, 2024 | 6 - 9 PM

Look for your invitation in the mail!



1

2

6

7

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11

1. Leader of Mariachi Anacatlan showcases singing talent of girl from the audience.
2. Chocolate Vender dances with children at our annual International Festival of Chocolate while Marimba Tropical plays.
3. Bowers President receives generous check for \$110,000 from the Nicholas Endowment to support festivals and school tour programs.
4. Kids play with different instruments at Philharmonic Society of Orange County "petting zoo."
5. Member smiles with creations after Anne's Treasures oil painting class.
6. Couple admires photo inside *The Power of Photography* exhibit.
7. Xipe Totec Danza Azteca group demonstrates a traditional ceremony.
8. Project Kinship visit *California Bounty*;

9. Guests adorned with skull masks stand for picture at Bowers' Day of the Dead Family Festival.
10. Seishun Taiko Group performs for Bowers' VIP Members at an exclusive reception prior to Members Opening Night. Become a Fellows level or above member to join these private receptions in the future!
11. Anime Convention attendees in front of Bowers Museum's outreach table.
12. Students working diligently on their art projects during a school tour.
13. Aaron Katayama from our fabrication team and Sergio of Graphics360 installing *Beyond the Great Wave: Works by Hokusai from the British Museum* exhibition.

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12



13





BOWERS' FELLOWS TRAVEL TO

MADAGASCAR

“

As I reflect on the incredible journey we embarked upon with our esteemed Fellows of Bowers Museum through the enchanting landscapes of Madagascar in the fall of 2023, I am filled with a sense of profound gratitude and awe.

We began in Antananarivo on the 16th. The city was lively, offering a warm welcome to our adventure. By the 20th, we found ourselves in the beautiful Andasibe National Park. The sights there were stunning, especially the Parson's chameleon with its striking colors. Hearing the unique calls of the Indri lemur was a memorable moment. Our visit to Lemur Island was delightful, seeing these charming creatures up close.

On the 22nd, we visited the Avenue of the Baobabs. Standing among these ancient trees, some over 800 years old, was a humbling experience. In Kirindy Reserve, we encountered various wildlife including the elusive fossa and numerous chameleon species.

By the 25th, we were exploring the Ranomafana Rainforest. The biodiversity here was extraordinary. Seeing the rare golden bamboo lemur was a highlight for all of us. An evening conversation with a wildlife researcher enriched our understanding greatly.

The final part of our trip, from September 28th to October 2nd, took us through Anja Reserve, Isalo National Park, and Zombitse-Vohibasia. Each place showed us the diverse beauty of Madagascar. Watching the ring-tailed lemurs at Anja, experiencing the majestic landscapes of Isalo, and exploring the unique environment of Zombitse-Vohibasia were all remarkable.

Leaving Madagascar on October 2nd was bittersweet. This journey was not just a trip; it was an enlightening experience, bringing us closer to nature and its wonders. The memories from this adventure will stay with me and our Bowers Museum Fellows for a long time.

”

Warm Regards,
Anne Shih
Bowers Museum Chairwoman of the Board of Governors

Signe Keller (in top-left image), wife of past President Dr. Peter C. Keller, leads a second Fellows trip to Madagascar, due to popular demand.



Embrace the Extraordinary

BECOME A BOWERS FELLOW

—where Art Meets Adventure

Step into a world where your passion for art and culture shapes the future. As a Bowers Fellow, you join a select group of individuals who play an integral role in our vibrant museum community, contributing significantly to preserving and celebrating the world's finest arts and cultures.

As a Fellow, immerse yourself in an array of exclusive experiences. Picture intimate gatherings where expert-led presentations bring art to life, elegant receptions that celebrate our remarkable exhibitions, and the thrill of international trips where the rare and extraordinary become your playground.

Your journey as a Bowers Fellow is not just about enjoying unparalleled access to the world of art. It is about making a meaningful impact. Your investment supports vital educational programs, aids in the conservation of priceless artworks, and helps us continue our mission to enrich lives through the wonders of art and culture.

For further information about the Fellows program and to be notified of upcoming travel opportunities, **please contact us at 714.567.3639 or membership@bowers.org.**

- **Fellows Trip to Taiwan, March 2024 | SOLD OUT!**
- **Fellows Trip to Central Asia, April 2024 | SOLD OUT!**
- **Fellows Trip to Tanzania, July 2024 | SPOTS AVAILABLE!**



Not a Fellow yet?
Join today at bowers.org/join

Thank You!

For a Remarkable Year at Bowers Museum

Your contributions to our year-end campaign have been pivotal, driving the success of a phenomenal year at Bowers Museum.

Your generosity is the heartbeat of our museum, fueling our mission and vision for the future.

We look forward to another year of discovery and wonder,

Made Possible by You!

Visit **[bowers.org/donate](https://www.bowers.org/donate)**

to see the generous donations made during the year-end appeal and make your own today! Donations are tax-deductible and vital to Bowers Museum's continued success as a non-profit.

Meet Bowers' New Chief Curator Tianlong Jiao

After nearly 20 years without a Chief Curator, Bowers Museum is delighted to welcome Dr. Tianlong Jiao as its new Vice President of Collections and Programs, Chief Curator, and Director of the Asian Exhibition Program.

With over two decades of distinguished experience in museum curation and administration, both in the United States and Hong Kong, Dr. Tianlong Jiao (TJ) is poised to help usher the Museum into a new era of innovative exhibitions and international collaborations alongside Bowers Museum's recently appointed President, Dr. Seán O'Harrow, who joined the Bowers last August.

Bowers Vice President of External Affairs, Kelly Radomske, sat down with TJ to get to know him in a rapid-fire Q & A style.

Kelly: What do you consider your area of expertise as a curator?

TJ: Chinese archaeology and art history, Pacific archaeology

Kelly: What drew you to Bowers Museum/made you want to work here?

TJ: The world-class collection and programs, as well as the museum's dedication to serve the community.

Kelly: What is your top priority as the Museum's new Chief Curator?

TJ: To care for the museum's collection, to enhance the museum's presentations of the collections, and to steward all traveling exhibitions, both in-bound and out-bound.

Kelly: What are you most excited about regarding upcoming exhibitions?

TJ: Top of mind would be the *Asian Comics* exhibition, which we hope to bring in new and younger audience to the museum.

Kelly: Finally, are there any exciting projects in the works in the next year+ you can share with our members?

TJ: We are getting ready to send our world-class Pacific art to travel to China in the fall for exhibition. More details on that will be announced soon! There are also new archaeological discoveries from China centered around the First Emperor's terra cotta warriors, which we hope to open in the summer of 2025.



Dr. Tianlong Jiao's illustrious career spans roles as the Head Curator at the Hong Kong Palace Museum, Head and Curator of the Asian Art Department at the Denver Art Museum, Head and Curator of the Chinese Art Department at the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, and Chairman of the Anthropology Department at the Bishop Museum in Hawaii, among others.

Learn more about Tianlong Jiao at [bowers.org/about us/press room](https://bowers.org/about-us/press-room).

MARCH

TUESDAY – SUNDAY | CLOSED MONDAYS

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1	2	3 Celtic Festival 
5	6	7	8 Exclusive Members Celebration 	9 Asian Comics: Evolution of an Art Form Opening Day ASIAN COMICS EVOLUTION OF AN ART FORM	10 Asian Comics Opening Lecture with Curator Paul Gravett
12 Lin Yu-Shan and a Century of Taiwan's Art with Dr. Kuo-Sheng Lai 	13	14 Anne's Treasures: Abstract Self Portrait Celebrity Speaker Series with Danny and the Divas 	15	16 ARCE: Egyptomania and the Legacies of Imhotep with Dr. Julia Troche 	17 Live Drawing Demo & Signing with Junko Mizuno, Asian Comics Artist 
19	20	21	22	23 SoCal Museum's Annual Free-For-All Day BSOC: Bead Trade in the Pacific Northwest with Dr. Alison Kyra Carter 	24 Distinguished Lecture & Book Signing: The Future of Exploration with Chris Rainier & Terry Garcia  THE FUTURE OF EXPLORATION
26	27	28 Anne's Treasures: Needle Felting 	29 Final Fridays: Asian Comics After Hours + Astro Boy (2003) Screenings & DJ 	30 Bowers' Books for Kids Storytime in the Galleries with Mindy Johnson 	31 Easter

For more info visit bowers.org

Follow us [@bowersmuseum](https://twitter.com/bowersmuseum)



Programs subject to change.

APRIL

TUESDAY – SUNDAY | CLOSED MONDAYS

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
2	3	4	5	6 Lecture & Book Signing: The Shared Origins of Modern Comics with Eike Exner 	7 Japanese Cherry Blossom Festival 
9	10 Art in Context: American Identity (Part 1 of 6) 	11 Anne's Treasures: Treasure Leaves	12	13 Slow Art Day ARCE: Geometry and Decoration in Egyptian Coffins with Dr. Stefania Mainieri 	14 A Cabaret on Arts and Disability with Marleena Barber 
16	17 Art in Context: American Identity (Part 2 of 6) 	18 Books at Bowers: The Art of Charlie Chan Hock Chye by Sonny Liew 	19	20 Books at Bowers: The Art of Charlie Chan Hock Chye by Sonny Liew 	21 Family Workshop with Erna Van Dyk
23	24 Art in Context: American Identity (Part 3 of 6) 	25 Anne's Treasures: Hand-Painted Tote Bag 	26 Final Fridays: Asian Comics After Hours + Metropolis (2001) Screening & DJ 	27 BSOC's Annual Art of Adorning Bead Bazaar Bowers' Books for Kids: Storytime in the Galleries with Shiho Pate 	28
30					

MAY

For more info visit bowers.org

Follow us @bowersmuseum



TUESDAY – SUNDAY | CLOSED MONDAYS

Programs subject to change.

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	<p>1 Art in Context: American Identity (Part 4 of 6)</p> 	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 ARCE Lecture Embodied Sonic Meditation Workshop with Jiayue Cecilia Wu</p> 	<p>5 Cinco de Mayo Festival</p> 
<p>7</p>	<p>8 Art in Context: American Identity (Part 5 of 6)</p> 	<p>9 Anne's Treasures: Painted Rocks</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 Mother's Day</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>15 Art in Context: American Identity (Part 6 of 6)</p> 	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 Shaolin Cultural Day Lecture with Hsi Lai Temple Abbot Hui Dong</p> 	<p>19 Shaolin Cultural Day (Continued)</p> 
<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 Anne's Treasures: Paper Parasols Timeless Melodies: The American Experience</p> 	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Bowers' Books for Kids: Storytime in the Galleries with CJ Charles BSOC Lecture</p> 	<p>26</p>
<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Final Fridays: Asian Comics After Hours + Ghost in the Shell (1996) Screening & DJ</p> 		



Discover Together

GROUP TOURS

at Bowers Museum

Gather your friends, family, or colleagues for an unforgettable group tour at Bowers Museum. Explore the world's cultures and histories through our diverse exhibitions and collections.

Why Choose a Group Tour?

- **Tailored Experiences:** Our tours are designed to cater to the unique interests of your group, ensuring a personalized and enriching experience.
- **Expert Insights:** Led by knowledgeable guides, our tours provide deeper understanding and fascinating stories behind each exhibit.
- **Special Rates:** Groups enjoy discounted admission, making it an affordable way to experience the museum.
- **Memorable Moments:** Whether it's a family outing, a corporate event, or a social group gathering, our tours create lasting memories.

Book your group today!

☎ **714.567.3680** or ✉ **tours@bowers.org**

Tag us on photos from your visit and follow us @bowersmuseum

JOIN US FOR A
**WEDDING
SHOWCASE**

MARCH 16 | 11AM - 2PM



SCAN TO RSVP

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Mother's Day
BRUNCH



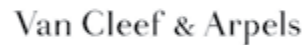
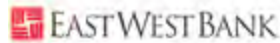
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TICKETS

BOWERS GENERAL ADMISSION

Includes access to all current exhibitions

Adults	\$18
Seniors (62+) & Students (12+)	\$15
Children under 12* and Santa Ana Summer offer***	FREE

SPECIAL-TICKETED EXHIBITION ADMISSION

+ \$10 for tickets to *Asian Comics*:

Evolution of an Art Form

with your purchase of General Admission**

**Must be accompanied by a paying adult*

***First visit is free for Members at the individual level & above*

****March 9 – September 8, with proof of SA residency*

HOURS

Tuesday – Sunday | 10 AM – 4 PM

Closed Mondays

CONTACT

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