



Caskey & Lees

MEDIA OFFICE
AGK Media Group
Agnes Gomes-Koizumi
323 937 5488
agnes@agkmediagroup.com

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**SAN FRANCISCO ARTS OF PACIFIC ASIA SHOW DISPLAYS MORE THAN
10 000 WORKS AT WEST COAST'S APEX ASIAN ARTS EVENT IN
FEBRUARY 2009**

**SPECIAL EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY ASIAN TEXTILES FEATURED
AT THE SHOW**

Asian Art Museum Returns for Gala Opening Night Benefit

(San Francisco – November 2008) The 13th Annual San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show returns to the historic Fort Mason Center on February 6-8 2009 with 85 of the top international dealers in museum-quality Asian Arts. With over 35 000 square feet and 10 000 objects on display, the San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show is the oldest and largest vetted exhibition in America. The gala opening night benefit for the Asian Art Museum is a true celebration with Chinese Stilt-Walkers, Lion Dancers, music and other festivities. The gala benefit marks the beginning of the San Francisco's society season and brings out a 'who's who' of collectors, business executives, museum supporters and society persons.

The San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show is considered one of the best Asian Art Shows in the United States. This vetted show will feature museum-quality art and artifacts, antiques and contemporary pieces from around the globe.

Unlike a traditional museum or gallery trip, the San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show provides visitors with an educational collecting and purchasing experience. The world-renowned galleries provide extensive information on the pieces shown and the cultures from which they originate. Knowledgeable and friendly, many of the exhibitors have placed pieces in top museums and frequently lecture at both universities and museums.

With more than 85 top international dealers participating in this year's show, the San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show brings together the most rare and most unique pieces from Mainland and Pacific Asia for view and purchase. Items include Chinese porcelain, Korean ceramics; Tibetan and Southeast Asian textiles, ceremonial clothing such as Dragon robes, masks and jewelry. Highly collectable antiquities and contemporary pieces are placed alongside delicate textiles and intricate carvings.

In recent years, many visitors attending the show have been seeking out art investments. With so many museum professionals in attendance, the show has gained a strong reputation for bringing highly collectable works to the San Francisco community. The beautifully illustrated show catalogue, free with show admission, helps visitors become acquainted with the variety of objects available. Through time, the catalogues serve as a resource within the collecting community by illustrating trends in collecting through.

The San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show will reunite with the Asian Art Museum to host for the Opening Night Preview benefit for the Chong-Moon Lee Center of Asian Art and Culture. Taking place on Thursday, February 5, 2009, the opening night preview is the Asian Art Museum's largest fundraising event for the year. A true spectacle, the benefit is imprinted in San Francisco's social calendar.

The Gala routinely draws prominent art collectors, as well as museum supporters who are interested in taking advantage of the 'first look' at the show, including the *New Asian Textile Traditions* exhibition. The preview evening, catered by Dan McCall & Associates, is a stunning

spectacle that includes colorful lanterns, lively music, traditional Chinese stilt-walkers and Lion Dancers.

The 2009 San Francisco Art of Pacific Asia Show features a special exhibition of contemporary Asian textile art. On view throughout the show, The *New Asian Textile Traditions* exhibit will explore the sublime beauty and spirituality of cloth. This exhibition features international contemporary textile artists from Asia and the West. Featured artists include Shihoko Fukumoto, Nobuo Matsubara, Toshio Matsubara, Paola Moreno, Rowland Ricketts, Lidia Syorka and Hiroko Takeda.

The textiles on exhibit will showcase the relationship between fabric and dye. Items on display will range from indigo-dyed kimonos with paste-resist dyeing techniques; woven and hand-stitched embroidered textiles to minimalist textiles dyed by indigo plants personally cultivated by the artist.

General admission for The San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show is \$15 per person. The show is open to the public Friday February 6, from 11:00am-7:00pm; Saturday, February 7, from 11:00am – 7:00pm; and Sunday, February 8 from 11:00am-5:00pm. There will be no admittance after 4:30pm on Sunday. There is a special Opening Night Preview to benefit the Asian Art Museum Chong-Moon Lee Center on Thursday, February 5 from 7:00pm – 10:00pm. Please call (415) 581-3788 or email apa@asianart.org for details regarding the opening night benefit preview.

The Arts of Pacific Asia Show is held at the Festival Pavilion at the Fort Mason Center, which is located at the intersection of Buchanan Street and Marina Boulevard in the Marina District of San Francisco. For additional information, the public should call (310) 455-2886, or visit www.caskeylees.com.

For press information contact Agnes Gomes-Koizumi AGK Media Group at (323) 937-5488 or agnes@agkmediagroup.com.

About Caskey Lees Inc.

Since 1985 California based Caskey Lees Inc. has produced high-end vetted antiques and fine arts shows. The production team of Bill Caskey and Elizabeth Lees is widely recognized for refining and expanding the art & antique shows to a new level in this country. Caskey Lees Inc. produces eight shows annually; three in New York City, two in Los Angeles, two in San Francisco and one in Philadelphia. For additional information about upcoming shows please visit www.caskeylees.com.

About the Asian Art Museum

The Asian Art Museum of San Francisco is one of the largest museums in the Western world devoted exclusively to Asian Art, with a collection of over 17,000 artworks spanning 6,000 years of history. The museum is a public institution whose mission is to lead a diverse global audience in discovering the unique material, aesthetic, and intellectual achievements of Asian art and culture.