

## Is This Asian Art? (CAA Boston Feb 06)

Mary-Louise Totton

Is This Asian Art? Marginalized Asian Art and Asian Art Beyond the Usual Fare

The study of Asian art in most American universities presents an atrophied Asia. Asia, as described by the Association of Asian Studies, comprises over 65% of the world's population, but the arts of many of these peoples are rarely exhibited or taught in North America.

Early collections and subsequent publications based on this art--primarily Chinese with Indian and Japanese in a distant second place--created a canon of Asian art in the U.S. Given that most art historians were educated in this canon, universities continue to perpetuate it, which has resulted in a fictitious hierarchy of Asian art, false notions about the unimportance of traditional media (textiles, ornament, personal adornments, etc.), and remarkably large art historical fissures in the complexities of Asian visual culture.

This panel will present a forum for new visions of Asia and the visual cultures found in the imagined peripheries of this region. Papers should address marginalized media, trans-regional studies, emerging artists, or other fresh art historical discourse in regards to Asian art history/histories and trends in non-canonical Asia.

Please send a one-page proposal by May 15 to Mary-Louise Totton at [mltotton@wmich.edu](mailto:mltotton@wmich.edu)

or mail to:

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Reference:

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