

Orientations, Vol. 37. No. 2, March 2006

Orientations

Orientations Magazine

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The first four articles in this month's issue are an extension of the exhibition 'Holy Madness: Portraits of Tantric Siddhas' at the Rubin Museum of Art (RMA), and its accompanying catalogue. Despite their historical importance in transmitting Tantric Buddhist practices from India to Tibet, mahasiddhas have often been relegated to the sidelines in Buddhist imagery.

By exploring commonalities in mahasiddha narratives and representations in Hinduism, Buddhism and Bon, Rob Linrothe, Ulrich von Schroeder and Kathryn Selig Brown offer a paradigm shift in reading images of these 'great adepts'. Caron Smith introduces some of the significant additions to the RMA collection since its opening in 2004.

Our other main feature celebrates Wen Fong's 45 years as a scholar, teacher and collector.

Roderick Whitfield describes what it was like to study with him at Princeton, while Maxwell Hearn assesses Fong's instrumental role in building up the collections and the department of Asian art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

In anticipation of Asia Week in New York, there are extensive previews of the major fairs and gallery shows. In the commentary, Julie Segraves describes how rapid urban development in Beijing has destroyed the dream of an artists' colony.

'Subject, Object and Agent: Parsing the Syntax of Tibetan Mahasiddha Art'
by Rob Linrothe

'Empowered Masters: Tibetan Wall Paintings of Mahasiddhas at Gyantse'
by Ulrich von Schroeder

'Siddha Stories in Stone: Nath Narratives at Shri Sailam'
by Rob Linrothe

`Great Magicians' in Bon Art'

by Kathryn H. Selig Brown

`Building the Rubin Museum of Art Collection'

by Caron Smith

`Streams and Mountains Without End: The Far Vision of Wen Fong'

by Roderick Whitfield

`Wen C. Fong and Asian Art at the Metropolitan Museum'

by Maxwell K. Hearn

A `Padmasambhava Palace' in Southern Brazil

`An Oasis of Buddhist Sacred Art, Scholarship, Meditation and Service in Remote India'

by Moke Mokotoff

`Study Day Report'

by Inne Broos

The European Fine Art Fair in Maastricht

Gallery News

The Arts of Pacific Asia Show in New York

The International Asian Art Fair

Announcements

`Commentary: Artists and Authorities Clash: Open Space vs Art Space in Beijing'

by Julie M. Segraves

A detailed summary of each article with pictures is posted at
www.orientations.com.hk/thisiss.htm

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