WORKSHOP: Mekong Delta and Masterpieces of the Museum of Vietnamese History, Ho Chi Minh

SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, 14 JULY
ARRIVALS AT MƯỜNG THANH HOTEL, 8A MẠC ĐỊNH CHI STREET

MONDAY 15 JULY
CHAIR: XUÂN THỊ
9:00AM  HOÀNG ANH TUẤN (DIRECTOR BTLS HCMC)/PHẠM NGỌC UYÊN (BTLS) WELCOME
9:15AM  PETER SHARROCK (SOAS) WORKSHOP INTRODUCTION

Hoàng Anh Tuấn has worked in directorial positions at museums in Ho Chi Minh City since 2006. He received his PhD on Nguyen wooden handicrafts in 1997 from the University of Ho Chi Minh City, and then became head of department of research, collections, and the library at the Fine Arts Museum in HCMC. He is an expert on the ancient art of the Nguyen dynasty and has been widely published in archaeology and art research journals.

Nguyen Khac Xuan Thi, Deputy Director of The Museum of Vietnamese History in HCMC (MHV), has been working in the MVH since 1998. He is in charge of Display, Education & Media Department and Collection, Library & Document Department. He has participated in numerous workshops, and contributed to several major international exhibitions, including Arts of Ancient Vietnam – From the River Plains to Open Sea (Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA 2009), and Lost kingdoms: Hindu-Buddhist sculpture of early Southeast Asia (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York USA, 2014). He is author of several essays and articles on Chinese ceramics (17th – 19th centuries) and other topics, including the collection of Oc Eo cultural ornaments (1st - 7th centuries) preserved in the History Museum in HCMC (2019).

Peter Sharrock experienced the American war in Indochina for four years as the Reuters correspondent and discovered how, as the French said, Indochina ‘attaches to the skin’. The war put the large Angkor temple complex out of reach and this was prolonged as Cambodia closed on itself and underwent the agony inflicted by Pol Pot. He finally reached Angkor in 1990, when landmines abounded and control of temples passed daily between the government and the Khmers Rouges. His doctorate is on a new interpretation of the Buddhism and imperial politics of the greatest king of ancient Cambodia, Jayavarman VII. He has developed a 'coherentist' approach to the history of Southeast Asia in which the very limited written sources – temple dedications inscribed in stone – are supplemented by trying to capture the religious and political messages embedded by kings in the decoration of state temples and
in sacred icons and by monitoring the international flow of ideas across the states lying between the great centres of learning and technology in India and China.

CHAIR: VŨ HỒNG LIỄN
PRE-HISTORY, FUNAN, ZHENLA

9:30AM NGUYỄN KHÁNH TRUNG KIẾN (DIRECTOR OF CENTER FOR ARCHAEOLOGY IN HCMC).
Pre-History Period of the Mekong Delta

10:30AM AMBRA CALO (ANU) [IN ABSENTIA] Early Traces from Oc Eo to Bali

Dr. Ambra Calo’s research focuses on Late Prehistoric trans-Asiatic exchange networks. Her PhD Dissertation (2007, SOAS,) entitled The Distribution of Bronze Drums in Early Southeast Asia, was published by British Archaeological Reports (BAR 2009), and as a revised edition, by ISEAS in Singapore (2014). She was awarded a Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA) by the Australian Research Council, through the Australian National University for a three-year (2012-2015) excavation project entitled “The Archaeology of the North Coast of Bali: a Strategic Crossroads for Early Trans-Asiatic Exchange.” The main results were published in Antiquity (Calo et al. 2015, Vol. 89). Her most recent research has focused on contacts between Bali and the Mekong Delta, as discussed in her co-authored publication “The Pangkung Paruk Sarcophagus Site in Bali: Late Prehistoric Parallels with Oc Eo and the Wider Mekong Delta” (Calo et al. in press, Antiquity).

Nguyễn Khánh Trung Kiên has been in charge of the Centre for Archaeology since 2011. His team has participated in archaeology projects in Southern Vietnam, ranging from neolithic to later-period Champa architecture and Oc Eo culture sites. He also has collaborated with colleagues from Japan (Waseda University, Okayama University) and Australia (ANU) to do excavations in some key sites of Southern Vietnam (Hoa Diem, An Son, Rach Nui, Loc Giang, Lo Gach). He is co-author of books about the archaeology of Southern Vietnam, such as Binh Duong Archaeology from prehistory to proto history (2010), Ba Ria – Vung Tau archaeology from prehistory to proto history (2012), Lam Dong archaeology (2013), Hoa Diem (Khánh Hoa) archaeological site (2016), and Nam Bo Archaeology (Volume 1 - Prehistory) (2017). Recently he commenced leading a team to do research for Oc Eo – Ba, the archaeological site in An Giang province where Louis Malleret excavated in 1944 and published from 1959 – 1963.

11:30AM COFFEE BREAK

CHAIR: PETER SHARROCK

12PM SONETRA SENG (SOAS/RUFA) [IN ABSENTIA]/ VŨ HỒNG LIỄN (SOAS) ĐONG SƠN
Bronze Drums and Gold

Dr. Vu Hong Lien is a Vietnamese-British historian based in London, UK. She has been teaching Asian Arts at SOAS, London University, for many years and is the author of a number of books on Vietnamese history, culture, and arts. She is also a lecturer at the Victoria & Albert Museum, London. Prior to her career in the academia, she was a Senior Journalist/Producer at the BBC World Service, both Radio and Television, during which she covered many important world events. As an academic, she now focuses on the arts and history of Vietnam in the context of Southeast Asian and global culture. She is currently working as co-editor for the forthcoming publication, The Arts of the Ly Dynasty of Vietnam.
1PM  LUNCH

CHAIR: EMMA NATALYA STEIN
2PM  LE THỊ LIÊN (AA VIETNAM) OC EO ART AND ROLE OF THE SEA PORTS, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ĐỒNG THÁP MƯƠI STYLE
3PM  PAUL LAVY (HAWAII) VISNU’S OF FUNAN AND GUPTA INDIA

Dr. Le Thi Lien is Senior Expert at the IA, executive member of Vietnam Association of Archaeology and ICUCH (ICOMOS), and Editorial Board Member of the SPAFA Journal. She was Senior researcher at the Institute of Archaeology, VASS, from 1985-2017. Her studies have focused on Oc Eo culture in Southern Vietnam, maritime cultural exchanges and interaction with Southeast Asia, India and China, and archaeology of the naval battle fields. Her publications include a book on Buddhist and Hindu Art in the Cuu Long River Delta prior to 10th century AD (2006, in Vietnamese), Edited book: “Di sản Lịch sử và những hướng tiếp cận mới [Historical Heritages and New Perspective]” (2011); and more than 80 chapters and papers in Vietnamese and English.

Paul A. Lavy (Ph.D., Art History, University of California, Los Angeles) is Associate Professor of South/Southeast Asian Art History at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. His primary research interests are the ca. fifth–eighth century Hindu-Buddhist artistic traditions of the Mekong Delta, Preangkorian Khmer civilization, and Thailand and their relationships with the art of South Asia. He is currently writing a book on early Southeast Asian sculpture entitled The Crowned Gods of Early Southeast Asia, and is co-editor of a book presently in-press, Across the South of Asia: A Volume in Honor of Professor Robert L. Brown.

4PM  COFFEE BREAK

CHAIR: TRẦN KỲ PHƯƠNG
4:30PM  PINNA INDORF (INDEPENDENT) [IN ABSENTIA]/PETER SHARROCK (SOAS) EARLY DHARMACAKRA IN THE MEKONG DELTA

TUESDAY, 16 JULY  MEKONG DELTA & CHAMPA

CHAIR: EMMA NATALYA STEIN

DELTA & CHAMPA
9AM  WILLIAM NOSEWORTHY (MCNEESE STATE)/ QUẤNG VĂN SƠN PALEOGRAPHIC RETURNS: THE PRICELESS HISTORY OF CHAMPA/CHAM LANGUAGE & SCRIPTS
10AM  TRẦN KỲ PHƯƠNG (INDEPENDENT) CHAM MASTERPIECES IN HỘI CHÍ MINH COLLECTION

Quảng Văn Sơn obtained his MA in Archaeology from the University of Social Sciences & Humanities in Ho Chi Minh City. As he was born and raised in Cham communities in Ninh Thuận province, he has long been interested in Cham & Champa history. His current research focuses on Cham temples and Champa citadels in Vietnam, the influence of Hinduism on Champa culture, and Champa inscriptions from the 4th to 17th centuries. He has published a number of essays, including in Nghiên Cựu Văn Hóa, Tạp Chí Nghiên Cựu Văn Hóa Chăm, and The IIAS Newsletter.
Dr. William B. Noseworthy obtained his Ph.D. in Southeast Asian History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he wrote his dissertation on the history of Cham communities in Cambodia and Vietnam. Dr. Noseworthy has recently published articles in Transfers: A Journal of Mobility Studies; Suvannabhumi: Multi-disciplinary Journal of Southeast Asian Studies; and the Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography. He is currently at work on a book on the social history of Cham communities in Southeast Asia, tentatively titled Gods of the Soil.

Dr. Noseworthy and Sơn Putra, MA have previously collaborated on publications in Vietnamese and English, as well as research on the history of Cham Bani communities and Cham language. They were co-authors together with several others on the 2014 Cham-Vietnamese-English Dictionary with Sakaya et al. published with Trí Thức Press.


11AM COFFEE BREAK

Chair: Trần Ký Phương
11:30AM Pierre Baptiste (Musée Guimet) Khmer Masterpieces in Hồ Chí Minh Collection

Pierre Baptiste is an art historian and researcher in charge of the Southeast Asian art department of the Musée Guimet since 1996. Teacher at the Faculty of Archaeology of the Royal University of Cambodia, Phnom Penh (1998-2002) and the Ecole du Louvre, Paris, he directed the renovation of the Southeast Asian galleries at the Guimet (1996-2001). Author of several essays, and articles devoted to the arts of Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand, he participated to the scientific direction of books in this field, such as (Missions archéologiques françaises au Vietnam – 1903-1904, 2005; Catalogue des collections khmères du musée Guimet, 2008). With his colleague, Thierry Zéphir, he curated exhibitions on several aspects of the arts of Southeast Asia, such as Trésors d’art du Vietnam - La statuaire du Champa, 2004; Dvâravatî: Aux sources du Bouddhisme en Thaïlande, 2009. He organised an exhibition on Louis Delaporte and the so-called rediscovery of Angkor (Angkor Naissance d’un Mythe – Louis Delaporte et le Cambodge, 2013) and curated an exhibition with Vietnam on the iconography of the Dragon (L’Envol du Dragon – Art royal du Vietnam, 2014). He organised an exhibition on Emile Guimet and Félix Régamey, together with Cristina Cramerotti, dealing with the origins of the Musée Guimet (Enquêtes vagabondes, le voyage illustré d’Emile Guimet en Asie, 2017). In 2018, he made an exhibition in Singapore Asian Civilisations Museum on the history of the collections of Khmer art in Musée Guimet (Angkor – Exploring Cambodia’s Secret City, 2018). He is currently preparing an exhibition on Charles Carpeaux’s work in 1901-1904 (Valenciennes, Musée des Beaux-Arts, Autumn 2019) and an exhibition on Khmer bronzes together with the National Museum of Cambodia, EFEO and C2RMF (Laboratory of French Museums) to be held in 2021.
12:30PM  LUNCH

CHAIR: PETER SHARROCK
1:30PM  JOHN K. WHITMORE (MICHIGAN) THE SOUTHERN CHAMS OF PANDURANGA
2:30PM  EMMA C. BUNKER (DENVER) EARLY GOLD IN THE DELTA

John K. Whitmore (Ph.D. Cornell University 1968), a student of O.W. Wolters, studies the premodern history of Southeast Asia and Vietnam. He has written a variety of articles on Đạ Viêt and Champa and has been co-editor of Sources of Vietnamese Tradition (2012) and China’s Encounters on the South and Southwest (2015). He has taught at Yale University and the Universities of Michigan, Virginia, and California, Los Angeles. He is currently Research Associate at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, the University of Michigan.

Emma C. Bunker has traveled extensively throughout Central Asia, China and Southwest Asia for half a century with a special focus in the production and long-distance exchange of minor metalwork of the first millennium BCE, and has been the research consultant for many public and private collections, especially gold.

3:30PM  COFFEE BREAK

CHAIR: EMMA NATALYA STEIN
4PM  ANNE-VALÉRIE SCHWEYER (CNRS) CHAM AND KHMER EPIGRAPHY IN THE MUSEUM

Anne-Valérie Schweyer (PhD Sorbonne, Paris) is Senior Researcher at the Centre de l’Asie du Sud-est (CASE), CNRS-France. Her degrees cover the disciplines of ancient history, history of art, classical philology and Indology. She is specialised on Champa history and epigraphy. She has been teaching Champa civilization and language at Inalco (University for Oriental Studies), Paris, since 2012, and since 2009, has regularly delivered conferences at SOAS, London. She has authored Ancient Vietnam, History, Art and Archaeology (2011) as well as many articles in specialised journals, such as “The Birth of Champa,” 13th International Conference of the European Association of Southeast Asian Archaeologists, Berlin 2011: 102-117; “Le temple de Po Klong Garai au Vietnam: le dossier épigraphique,” juillet 2015, online https://halshs.archives-ouvertes.fr/halshs-01172104/; “Potent places in Central Vietnam: ‘Everything that comes out of the earth is Cham’,” The Asian Pacific Journal of Anthropology, 2017. She is at the head of a program for the automatic reading of the ancient Champa inscriptions.

5PM  BÙI MINH TRÍ (VIETNAM INSTITUTE OF CITADELS STUDIES) EVOLUTION OF VIETNAMESE CERAMICS

WEDNESDAY, 17 JULY  COLLECTION, DISPLAY
CHAIR: EMMA NATALYA STEIN
9AM  KENSEN KWOK (FOUNDING DIRECTOR ACM SINGAPORE)
9:45AM  VŨ HỒNG LIÊN (SOAS) THE NGUYỄN DELTA
Kenson Kwok established three new museums in Singapore - the first Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM; 1997), the flagship ACM at Empress Place (2003), and the Peranakan Museum (2008). He oversaw the conversion of two historic buildings, expanded the collections into new areas, and set new standards for curating and design of the permanent galleries and special exhibitions. In retirement, he remains active in committees at the National Gallery Singapore, National Museum of Singapore, NUS Museums, Indian Heritage Centre, and ICOM (International Council of Museums). He is also a lecturer for the Southeast Asian module of the Asian Art Diploma at SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies) in London.

10:30AM COFFEE BREAK

CHAIR: KENSON KWOK
10:45AM HOÀNG ANH TUẤN (BTLS HCM) ART OF THE NGUYỄN DYNASTY
11:30AM EMMA NATALYA STEIN (FREER | SACKLER, SMITHSONIAN) OPEN QUESTIONS: OBJECTS, ISSUES, DESIGN, DISPLAY

12:15PM LUNCH

Emma Natalya Stein is a specialist of architecture and sacred geography of South and Southeast Asia, with a primary interest in the ways in which art and landscape intersect. Emma completed her PhD in the History of Art at Yale (2017), with a doctoral thesis on the urban landscape of Kanchi, South India, which she is currently transforming into a book (Asian Cities series, IIAS). Conducting fieldwork throughout South and Southeast Asia, including Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand, India, Sri Lanka, and Myanmar, she studies and maps ancient temple-cities and features of the natural environment. She has worked on exhibitions and publications at the Yale University Art Gallery, the Rubin Museum, and the Freer | Sackler (the Smithsonian’s museum of Asian Art), and she has lectured and taught at institutions in Europe, Asia, and the USA.

1:15PM VISIT COLLECTION AND RESERVE COLLECTION, HISTORY MUSEUM - HCMC

THURSDAY 18 JULY – FRIDAY 19 JULY: FIELD TRIP TO MEKONG DELTA SITES