



Caskey & Lees

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**16th ANNUAL SAN FRANCISCO ARTS OF PACIFIC ASIA SHOW DEBUTS NEW CONTEMPORARY
ASIAN ART INITIATIVE FEATURING SELECT GALLERIES FROM CHINA**

Special Public Exhibition: 'Sacred & Secular' Special Piccus Collection of Tibetan Rugs

Opening Night Preview to Benefit the Asian Art Museum

WHAT: The 16th Annual San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show (SFAPA) returns to the historic Fort Mason Center this February 3 – 5, 2012. This year's event will debut a contemporary Asian Art Initiative that will feature select galleries from China, many of which have never exhibited in the San Francisco area before. The SFAPA will also feature more than 75 vetted private and international galleries that will showcase an array of museum-quality textiles, sculptures, jewelry, and antiques from Mainland and Pacific Asia.

Contemporary Asian Art has grown in prominence in the last decade. As Asia's importance in the world market rises, so too does its artistic traditions. The Contemporary Asian Art Initiative spotlights the growing contributions of Asian artists to the Contemporary Art scene, providing an accessible and sophisticated environment for collectors to discover new artists and galleries. Galleries from the Americas and China will highlight a diverse array of paintings, sculpture and mixed media art.

The SFAPA will present a special exhibition of Tibetan rugs. *'Sacred & Secular, The Piccus Collection of Tibetan Rugs'* will showcase the genuine aesthetic sense and cultural achievements of often overlooked Tibetan weavers. A rare viewing opportunity, the Piccus Collection of Tibetan rugs has not been available for public viewing before. Owner of the collection and curator of the exhibit Robert Piccus has published a book outlining the culture and history of Tibetan rugs and will be on-site throughout the show for book signings.

A gala preview benefitting the Asian Art Museum Chong-Moon Lee Center for Asian Arts & Culture will kick-off the art show on Thursday, February 2, 2012. A must-attend event on San Francisco's social calendar, the gala showcases the vibrant cultures of Asia with lion dancers, traditional costumes and Chinese stilt-walkers.

WHO: The San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show is attended by museum patrons, art collectors, political officials, business executives, socialites, interior design and arts professionals as well as arts enthusiasts and the culture-curious. This show is produced by the noted Art Show team Caskey Lees, producers of The San Francisco Tribal & Textile Arts Show, the The New York Ceramics Fair, and The New York Arts of Pacific Asia Show.

WHY: The San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show is the oldest and largest vetted exhibition of Asian art in the United States. Considered one of the best Asian art shows in America, this event features museum-quality art and artifacts, antiques and contemporary pieces from around the globe.

WHEN: Thursday February 2nd, 7:00pm-10:00pm (Opening Night Preview)
Friday February 3rd, 11:00am-7:00pm
Saturday February 4th, 11:00am-7:00pm
Sunday February 5th, 11:00am-5:00pm (no admittance after 4:30pm)

WHERE: Festival Pavilion at Fort Mason Center (Buchanan Street and Marina Boulevard)
San Francisco, CA

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: General admission to the San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show is \$15. Please call (415) 581-3788 or email apa@asianart.org to purchase for the opening night benefit preview. 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 / agnes@agkmedia.com.