

Art in the US-Japan Relationship

A Curator's Perspective with Monika Bincsik

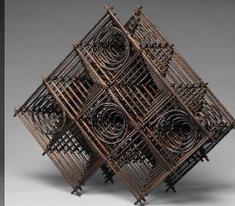
Thursday, November 19, 2020
6:00PM EST via Zoom

Celebrate the Art of Japan at
<http://bit.ly/JASG-ArtCurator>

The Japan-America Society of Georgia is pleased to present a special lecture highlighting the unique role art plays in US-Japan relations featuring a behind the scenes look into Japanese Bamboo Art from the renowned Abbey Collection by Dr. Monika Bincsik, Associate Curator of Japanese Decorative Arts at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.



**Monika
Bincsik**



**Richard J. Wood
Art Curator Series**



 **NAJAS**
National Association of Japan-America Societies

日米友好基金
JUSFC
Japan - United States
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Program Schedule

6:00 pm Celebrating the Arts of Japan Webinar

Welcome

Yoshi Domoto
Executive Director, JASG

Introduction

Peter Kelly
President, NAJAS

Program Presentation

Monika Bincsik, Associate
Curator of Japanese
Decorative Art, MOMA

Question & Answer Session

Closing Remarks

Albert Hodge
Chair, JASG

Japanese Bamboo Art: The Abbey

Collection



Japanese Bamboo Art: The Abbey Collection at MOMA

The first Japanese artworks to enter The Metropolitan Museum of Art's collections were ceramics, lacquers, ikebana, netsuke, bamboo, and textiles. The 1870s was a decade of growing interest in Japanese decorative arts in America, engendered in part by the Centennial Exhibition of 1876, held in Philadelphia. Louis Comfort Tiffany (1848–1933) had a collection of Asian art to provide models of techniques and designs for sumptuous goods. Similarly, Tiffany & Co.'s artistic director of silver manufacturing Edward C. Moore (1827–1891) and Mr. Tiffany's associate Samuel Colman (1832–1920) both became dedicated collectors of Japanese decorative arts and patrons of the Museum. The first official bequest to the Museum, in 1881, was the collection of Stephen Whitney Phoenix (1839–1881), consisting of mainly Japanese decorative arts. Since then, the Museum gradually has built up its Japanese holdings and in 2017 added to it a significant collection of Japanese bamboo baskets and contemporary sculptural bamboo works from the collection of Diane and Arthur Abbey. The Abbey collection highlights key stages in the modern history of Japanese bamboo art while introducing the main lineages of masters and showing the emergence of a contemporary bamboo scene. For hundreds of years, simple, everyday utensils as well as refined bamboo vessels were made according to local traditions and techniques passed down from generation to generation. It was not until the end of the 19th century that bamboo craftsmanship began to be recognized as one of the traditional Japanese decorative arts, and later as an art form. The presentation will shed light to the refined beauty and technical sophistication of this art form.

About Monika Bincsik

Monika Bincsik specializes in Japanese decorative arts and textile. From 2008 to 2009 she was a Jane and Morgan Whitney Research Fellow at The Met. Later she worked as a research assistant at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, where she earned a second PhD on Japanese lacquers. From 2013 to 2015 she was an Andrew W. Mellon Curatorial Fellow at The Met, and became Assistant Curator in 2015, then Diane and Arthur Abbey Associate Curator in 2019. She was co-curator of *Kimono: A Modern History* (2014) and curated *Discovering Japanese Art: American Collectors and The Met* (2015), *Japanese Bamboo Art: The Abbey Collection* (2017), and *Kyoto: Capital of Artistic Imagination* (2019), furthermore was one of the co-curators of *The Tale of Genji: A Japanese Classic Illuminated* (2019). Monika has published widely on decorative arts and collecting history.

Through the Richard J. Wood Art Curator Series offered by the The National Association of Japan-America Societies (NAJAS) and the Japan-United States Friendship Commission (JUSF), The Japan-America Society of Georgia (JASG) is pleased to present a special lecture event, Art in the U.S.-Japan Relationship: A Curator's Perspective. This event will highlight the unique aspects of Japanese art and its role in the grassroots relationship between the United States and Japan as guest lecturer, Monika Bincsik, Associate Curator of Japanese Decorative Arts at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York will present the intricacies of the renowned Bamboo Art from The Abbey Collection.

ジョージア日米協会では全米日米協会及び日米友好基金の支援により、リチャード・ウッド・アートキュレーター・シリーズの一環として“日米関係の中の美術：キュレーターの視点”と題した特別公演を開催します。このイベントでは、日本美術のユニークな面と日米の草の根的關係面でのその役割について、ニューヨーク・メトロポリタン美術館の日本装飾美術アソシエイト・キュレーターであるモニカ・ビンシク氏をお迎えして、有名なアビー収蔵品の竹工芸名品についてお話を伺います。

The JASG is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to promote mutual understanding between the people of Japan and the State of Georgia through establishing and promoting ties and programs in the areas of business, culture, customs, education, commerce and politics. For more information about the JASG and its activities, please visit www.jasgeorgia.org or contact the JASG office at 404-842-1400 or admin@jasgeorgia.org.

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