

Jacqueline Chao PhD Named Curator; Chang Qing PhD Named Research Curator at Crow Collection of Asian Art

(DALLAS, November 30, 2015)—Amy Lewis Hofland, Executive Director of the Crow Collection of Asian Art, announced today the appointment of Jacqueline Chao PhD as curator of Asian art and Chang Qing PhD as research curator. Both curators will join the Crow Collection staff in Dallas on January 4, 2016.

Jacqueline Chao PhD is a specialist in Chinese and Buddhist art. She comes to the Crow Collection of Asian Art from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where she teaches several courses in Asian art history, and from the Art Institute of Chicago, where she contributes research to the Chinese painting collection at the museum. Chao fills the Curator of Asian Art position previously held by Karin Oen PhD.

Hofland, in making the announcement, said: “I am delighted to welcome Dr. Chao to the Crow. She comes to the museum with an impressive background of scholarly achievement and a diversity of expertise that captures the essence of what our museum is about. Chao is rooted in historical works, but with a passionate vision toward what is happening in Asian contemporary art today. She will be a strong addition to the curatorial team.”

Chao has organized and independently curated many art exhibitions, including at the Phoenix Art Museum, ASU Art Museum, ASU Institute for Humanities Research, Chicago Artists Coalition, and the University of Toronto Art Centre, in the areas of Chinese painting, Japanese prints, and contemporary new media. Her national and international exhibitions have presented works ranging from the historical (“The Elegant Gathering: Collaborations in Chinese Painting;” “Views of Edo: Japanese Prints from the Robert Louis Mueller Family Collection”) to the contemporary (“The Interpretive Brush: Contemporary Chinese Painting in Honor of Dr. Chu-tsing Li;” “WORK WERQ: Contemporary Asian American Art”) and from established and emerging artists from across Asia and North America. She has authored and edited several essays, books and catalogs on Chinese art and Buddhist art, and presented her research at Harvard University, University of Hawaii, University of Washington, and at other universities, museums, academic conferences and symposia.

As Director of Exhibitions and Residencies at Chicago Artists Coalition, a prominent 40-year-old arts service organization, she managed all of the exhibition and residency programming, including a year-long artist studio residency and curatorial and artist incubator. She currently serves on the board of Plural Inc., a non-profit dedicated to advancing equity in the arts through support of Canadian and U.S. ethno-cultural and community grounded arts organizations, artists, and arts administrators.

She holds an MA and PhD in Chinese Art History from Arizona State University with a dissertation on famed Chinese artist Chen Rong (act. 13th century) and the Chinese dragon ink painting tradition, and a BA in Art History from the University of Toronto. She was recently selected and profiled as a Chicago arts leader in the inaugural issue of *Mandarin Leader* publication, which featured Chinese luminaries in the Chicago arts, entrepreneurship, medicine and philanthropic communities.

In her new role at the Crow Collection, Chao will work directly with Hofland, overseeing the curatorial department and developing exhibitions, contemporary projects (including an upcoming artist residency program), and working with the education department to develop robust programming content.

Chang Qing PhD is also a specialist in Chinese and Buddhist art, with a special emphasis on historical research. Qing joins the Crow Collection of Asian Art from the University of Missouri-St. Louis where he teaches several courses in Chinese History and Art and works as a freelance art consultant.

Crow Collection of Asian Art Curator Emeritus Caron Smith PhD, said: "As the curatorial department focuses its activities on building the collection further and organizing dynamic exhibitions, Qing joins us at a time in which his past success working directly with museums in Asia will be of great benefit to the Crow Collection. We are excited to welcome to our curatorial team someone with such a deep knowledge of Asian art."

Chang received his BA and MA from the Archaeology Department at Beijing University and his PhD from the Art History Department at the University of Kansas. He has conducted research at three institutes in China: the Longmen Research Institute, the Archaeological Research Institute of Chinese Social Science Academy, and the Chinese Buddhist Research Institute. In China, he attended eight archaeological excavations on archaeological sites including Neolithic period ruins, Shang (16th-11th century BCE), Han (206 BC-220 CE) and Tang (618 AD-907 CE) dynasties tombs, the Song (960-1279 CE) and Yuan periods (1271-1368 CE) ceramic kilns, as well as architectural sites with extensive discoveries of Chinese porcelain wares from Tang and Song palace ruins. Additionally, he has executed surveys of Chinese and Tibetan Buddhist cave temples, monasteries, historical sites and museums.

In the United States he has worked intensely with various museums, including the Freer/Sackler Galleries, National Gallery of Art, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art as a research fellow. He was the Curatorial Fellow of Asian Art at the Ackland Art Museum of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and Associate Curator of Asian Art at the Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota, Florida. He curated six exhibitions focused on East Asian art, South Asian art, Chinese calligraphy and painting, Asian Buddhist art, and Turkmen jewelry. In addition, he assisted with many other museum-sponsored exhibitions on Chinese art by translating Chinese painting inscriptions into English and writing catalog entries.

During his career, Chang has taught Chinese and Asian art at six U.S. universities and one Chinese university and has published numerous research articles in English and Chinese, as well as ten books. His newly published book is *The Art of Asia: History, Meaning and Style*, serving as the textbook for his teaching on "Introduction to Asian Art." In addition, he has three more books forthcoming, including a comprehensive catalog on the Buddhist collection of the Freer Gallery of Art, a comprehensive history on Chinese Buddhist sculpture, and a study on Feilaifeng images from the tenth to fourteenth century in Hangzhou, China. Currently he is writing a book on Buddhist cliff images of tenth to seventeenth centuries at thirteen sites in Hangzhou, a Buddhist center in China from the tenth century onward.

In his new role at the Crow Collection, Chang will work directly with Chao overseeing the collection, focusing on ongoing research of works of art, sourcing exhibitions and loans from China and working with the marketing staff to position the entire museum's collection online.

The arrival of Chao and Chang complete the Crow Collection's curatorial team, led by Executive Director Amy Lewis Hofland. Curator Emeritus Caron Smith will continue to serve in an advisory role, curating select exhibitions from the New York office including January's Brieswar Sen Exhibition with Dr. Goswamy and leading special projects such as the February 2016 curator-led donor trip to India. Smith holds a doctorate in Chinese painting from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. Before joining the Crow Collection, she was the co-director and senior curator of Asian Art for the Rubin Museum of Art in New York. She also served as Deputy Director and Senior Curator of Asian Art at the San Diego Museum of Art from 1997 to 2003; Deputy Director of Galleries and Curator of Collection for Asia Society from 1995 to 1997; and held administrative and curatorial posts at the Metropolitan Museum of Art for 10 years. Together, this team will be working on various long-range projects including collections, acquisitions, conservation planning and traveling exhibitions.

"This is a very important turning point for the museum," said Hofland. "We have arrived at a most exciting gateway to a future reputation known for scholarship and the contributions of our treasured collection. The collection is the reason we are all here, and I know this gifted trio will steward this new chapter in remarkable ways."

About the Crow Collection of Asian Art

The Crow Collection of Asian Art features a variety of spaces and galleries with changing exhibitions of the arts of China, Japan, India, Korea and Southeast Asia drawn from cultures historical and contemporary. Seventeen years in operation, this lovingly curated free museum offers a serene setting for quiet reflection in the heart of the Dallas Arts District. The Crow Collection continues to grow in art and service to the Dallas-Fort Worth community with an emphasis on shared learning and fun.

###