How to Make the Universe Right: The Art of the Shaman from Vietnam and Southern China

On view: January 17–May 1, 2015
Opening Reception: January 16, 2015; 5:30-7:30pm

How to Make the Universe Right presents an unprecedented group of scrolls and ceremonial objects of the Yao people and other groups from Vietnam and Southern China. This rich tradition of Shamanist practice brings together Daoist and Buddhist deities, Confucian ancestor worship, and Animism.

These scroll paintings, costumes, masks, instruments and the other ceremonial objects represent an unbroken link to the past of Asian mountain cultures whose roots go back 2000 years. Scrolls vary in number from sets of three to complete sets of seventeen or more depending on the shaman’s stature and the intended purpose of the work. The complete Daoist pantheon is usually represented, including the Three Pure Ones, the Jade Emperor, and Master of Saints. The spiritual stories represented in the scroll paintings also include celestial beings such as the Three Merciful Ones, the Four Heavenly Messengers, and the Ten Kings of Hell, and divine animals such as tigers, dragons, lion-dogs, and others.

With the help of scrolls and other spiritual objects, such as the ones exhibited in this show, shamans guide their people’s vital spiritual life binding them together and helping them “make the universe right.”
Artist-in-Residence: Eric Beltz, The Cave of Treasures

On view: September 12, 2014–May 1, 2015

As the 2014 Artist-in-Residence, Eric Beltz will present an ambitious new project, The Cave of Treasures, a dramatic departure for the artist who is known for his intimately scaled, highly-detailed graphite drawings. The title refers to three recurring themes in Beltz’s work that are commonly understood as harmful—Medusa, poison oak, and the swastika—and is rooted in the artist’s academic research into legends, tragedies, misinterpretations, and evolutions of iconography surrounding mythological figures, plants, and symbols. These interests manifest in a drawing in silver ink on black paper, a large-scale wall drawing, and a wood and concrete sculpture containing live Poison Oak. Collectively, they serve as a meditative interpretation of nature, fear, seduction, and repulsion. The Cave of Treasures is Beltz’s first solo Museum exhibition and represents the ten-year anniversary of the artist’s graduation from UC Santa Barbara.

Art for sale!
In conjunction with his exhibition The Cave of Treasures, artist Eric Beltz has designed a limited edition, do-it-yourself, counted cross-stitch pattern. Available in an edition of 50, the cross-stitch pattern costs $15 and includes: needle, thread, pattern, fabric and a letter of authenticity with the artist’s signature and edition number. Purchase yours at the Museum or contact Lety Garcia at lgarcia@museum.ucsb.edu; 805-893-2951 for more information.
Fletcher Benton: The Artist's Studio

On view: January 17–May 1, 2015
Opening Reception: January 16, 2015; 5:30-7:30pm

_Fletcher Benton: The Artist's Studio_ examines the artistic process of sculptor Fletcher Benton, known for his large-scale, geometric steel sculptures. The exhibition will reveal how Benton's practice relies on intuition to create grand, abstract gestures from modest, industrial materials. Works included in the exhibition are drawn directly from the artist's studio and demonstrate how he moves from initial conception and lively experimentation to finished form. This installation celebrates the recent donation to the Museum of *Folded Circle and Arc*, 2012, a monumental outdoor sculpture by the artist, Gift of Dr. Yoel Haller and Eva Haller.

Organized by the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art, curated by E.B. Robertson, Acting Director and Rebecca Harlow, Curatorial Assistant, Art, Design & Architecture Museum, UC Santa Barbara in conjunction with Kate Eilertsen, Executive Director, Sonoma Valley Museum of Art, and the artist.

This exhibition has been supported by Dr. Yoel Haller and Eva Haller.
After World War II, a generation of young, London-based architects, artists, and writers rethought the art and architecture of a culture fascinated with American consumerism, pop culture, mass communication, and visions of a better tomorrow. In 1956, several of these architects, painters, and sculptors collaborated on *This is Tomorrow*. This exhibition at London's Whitechapel Art Gallery presented twelve group exhibits drawn from the everyday, which questioned the tenets of traditional and modernist art.

Recently, Geoffrey Holroyd, formerly of London and now of Santa Barbara, donated to the Museum's Architecture and Design Collection the artwork that he, Lawrence Alloway, and Toni del Renzio created as Group 12 for the 1956 exhibition. *This was Tomorrow* explores Group 12's contribution to the *This is Tomorrow* exhibition, and the architecture and design works of Geoffrey and June Holroyd.
Related Programming:

Talk: Prof. Trian Nguyen, “The Art of the Shaman in Vietnam and Southern China”
January 16; 3:30pm @ the Museum
In conjunction with the exhibition How to Make the Universe Right, Trian Nguyen, Associate Professor of Art and Visual Cultures at Bates College, will lecture on the art of the Shaman in Vietnam and Southern China.

Cross-Stitch Workshop
February 18; 5:30pm @ the Museum
Join us on a winter night for cross-stitching and chit-chat! Celeste Varner, owner of Loop and Leaf, will help guests get started on the cross-stitch pattern specially-designed by exhibiting artist Eric Beltz (see below for more info). Feel free to bring other cross-stitch or knitting projects to get expert help or just come and hang out during this fun night of crafting in the Museum. There will be refreshments to complete this cozy gathering.

The limited edition, do-it-yourself, counted cross-stitch pattern, designed by Eric Beltz, is available at a cost of $15 and includes: needle, thread, pattern, fabric, and a letter of authenticity with the artist's signature and edition number. Purchase yours at the Museum or contact the office at 805-893-2951 for more information.

Exhibition Walkthrough: Eric Beltz and Prof. Ann Bermingham
February 25; 5:30pm @ the Museum
This lively walk and talk features Ann Bermingham, Professor Emerita of Art History, and artist Eric Beltz in conversation about his current installation, The Cave of Treasures. Prof. Bermingham will use her knowledge of 18th- and 19th-century landscape painting and drawing to discuss with the artist his unique method of representing landscape as well as his interest in medicinal and poisonous plants, feminist archaeology and the evolution of iconographies surrounding esoteric symbols. This informal conversation allows viewers to gain yet another understanding of this multi-layered installation and encourages questions and comments from the audience throughout.

Talk: “Leaves of Three: Art, Anthropology, and Ecology,” with Eric Beltz, Dr. Bob Muller, and Dr. Jan Timbrook
March 15; 2:00pm @ the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2559 Puesta Del Sol, Santa Barbara, CA 93105, (805) 682-4711
"Leaves of three, let it be," is a well-known phrase to warn you against touching Poison Oak. To learn more about this toxic plant from three unique perspectives, join us for a special walk and talk with three experts in their fields. Dr. Bob Muller, Research Associate at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, will show us how to spot this plant in the wild and impart information on its recent spread. Dr. Jan Timbrook, Curator of Ethnography at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, will shed light on this infamous plant's painful relationship with California native peoples, while Eric Beltz will discuss how and why this plant features in many of his drawings.

Talk: Prof. Helen Morales, “Medusas: Ancient and Modern
April 8; 5:30pm @ the Museum
This talk by Helen Morales, Argyopoulos Professor of Hellenic Studies, Department of Classics, will explore people's enduring fascination with, and changing significance of, the gorgon Medusa in artwork from ancient
Greek temple pediments to the work of the Museum's Artist-in-Residence, Eric Beltz.

Architecture Lecture Series
TBD @ the Museum
Beginning this fall, the Architecture and Design Collection will be hosting a series of lectures featuring designers, historians and architects. Check our website for more details as they become available.

James Timberlake, Kieran Timberlake Architects, Philadelphia
Kevin Daly, Kevin Daly Architects, Los Angeles

*All events are free and open to the public!

About Art, Design & Architecture Museum
Through rotating installations of its permanent collections along with special exhibitions and programs, the AD&A Museum is both a teaching museum, committed to the development of critical thinking and visual literacy in support of the University’s goals of education, research, and service, and a resource for the wider Santa Barbara community.

Open Wednesday – Sunday, 12 – 5 pm
Always free!