

Arts of Asia Lecture Series Spring 2016  
Patronage in Asian Art: Monarchs, Merchants, and Devotees  
*Sponsored by The Society for Asian Art*

Patronage in the Yuan dynasty  
Ankeney Weitz  
March 18, 2016

1. Some Important Names and Terms

Jin (Jurchen) dynasty (1115 -- 1234)  
Southern Song dynasty (1127 -- 1267)  
Yuan dynasty (1260 -- 1368)

Khubilai Khan (Shizu) (1215 -- 94; reigned 1271 – 94)  
Anige (1244 - 1306)  
Liu Guandao (active 1275 – 1300)  
Zhao Mengfu (1254 – 1322)  
Ren Renfa (1255 – 1328)  
Tugh Temur (Wenzong) (reigned 1328 -- 32)

*wennrenhua* 文人畫 (literati painting)  
*jiehua* 界畫 (ruled-line painting for renditions of architecture)  
*shufu* ware (, imperial porcelains)  
Dadu (imperial city, present-day Beijing)  
Ethnic hierarchy: *guoren* 國人 (Mongol national), *semuren* 色目人 (Central Asian), *hanren* 韓人 (Northern Chinese and Korean), *nanren* 南人 (Southern Chinese)  
*nasij* (cloth of gold)

2. Suggested Reading

(\*\*Most useful works for this session)

\*\*Watt, James C.Y. *The World of Khubilai Khan: Chinese Art in the Yuan Dynasty* (New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art), 2010.  
Full text available online at Google Books:  
<https://books.google.com/books?id=nCIPD1V39QkC&lpg=PP1&pg=PR17#v=onepage&q&f=false>

\*\*Weidner, Marsha Smith, "Aspects of Painting and Patronage at the Mongol Court, 1260-1368." In Chu-tsing Li, ed., *Artists and Patrons: Some Social and Economic Aspects of Chinese Painting*. (Lawrence, KS: Kress Foundation Department of Art History, University of Kansas, 1989), 37-59.

\*\*Jing Anning, "Financial and Material Aspects of Tibetan Art under the Yuan Dynasty," *Artibus Asiae* 64:2 (2004): 213-41.

Hong Zaixin, with Cao Yiqiang, "Pictorial Representation and Mongol Institutions in Khubilai Khan Hunting." In Cary Y. Liu and Dora C.Y. Ching, eds., *Arts of the Song and Yüan: Ritual, Ethnicity, and Style in Painting* (Princeton, NJ: The Art Museum, Princeton University, 1999) 180-201.

Lee, Sherman E. and Wai-kam Ho. *Chinese Art Under the Mongols: The Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368)*. Cleveland: The Cleveland Museum of Art, 1968.

Weitz, Ankeney, "Art and Politics at the Mongol Court of China: Tugh Temur's Collection of Chinese Paintings," *Artibus Asiae* 64:2 (2004), 243-80.

### 3. Important Works

#### Private patronage among literati painters

Zhao Mengfu (1254-1323), *Autumn Colors on the Qiao and Hua Mountains*, Ink and colors on silk, National Palace Museum, Taipei

Sheng Mao (active 1310 - 1360), *Pleasures of Fishing in a River in the Mountains*, Ink and colors on silk, The Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, Museum purchase, B69D10

Ni Zan (1301-1374), *The Rongxi Studio*, Ink on paper, ink on paper, National Palace Museum, Taipei

Zhao Mengfu, Zhao Yong (1289–after 1360), and Zhao Lin (second half 14<sup>th</sup> century), *Horses and Grooms*, Ink and colors on paper, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Ren Renfa (1254–1327), *Two Horses*, Ink and colors on silk, Palace Museum, Beijing

#### Court patronage of painters

Anige (1245-1306), *Portraits of Khubilai Khan and Chabi*, 1294, ink and color on silk, National Palace Museum, Taipei

Liu Guandao (active 1279-1300), *Khubilai Khan Hunting*, ca. 1280), ink and color on silk, National Palace Museum, Taipei

Zhao Mengfu, *Auspicious Grain*, 1309, ink and color on paper

Ren Bowen (1254-1327), *Tribute Bearers*, Ink and colors on silk, The Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, The Avery Brundage Collection, B60D100

#### Imperial wares

*Bowl with dragon and flowers motif*, Porcelain with molded decoration and imperial mark *shufu*, Jingdezhen, Jiangxi, H. 3 in x Diam. 6 3/8 in, The Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, Gift of Hanni Forester, 1997.11 (On Display in Gallery 17)

*Vajrabhairava Mandala* (1330–32), Silk tapestry (kesi), 96 5/8 x 82 5/16 in. Metropolitan Museum of Art, Purchase, Lila Acheson Wallace Gift, 1992.54

*Cloth of Gold with Medallions*, Silk and metallic thread lampas, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Purchase, Joseph Pulitzer Bequest and Dodge Fund, 2001.595

#### Imperial architecture

Anige, *Stupa*, 1301, at Wutai Mountains, Shanxi

Submit your art. Upload your creations for people to see, favourite and share. Status update. Post an update. 40x40x1.5 inches  
Monarchs of Spring is a large original oil painting on deep edge canvas with white edges. The monarchs are two red deer, a stag and a doe, who stand in the middle of a spring meadow full of white lacy flowers. Behind them is a tantalizing view of a field seen through the trees of yellow rapeseed flowers and glimpses of this yellow can be seen in a horizontal line all through the painting behind the deer. This was done for the very good reason that I like yellow and love seeing fields full of yellow flowers in Spring and summer.