



**Fowler Museum at UCLA • August 5, 2017**

***How to Make the Universe Right*** presents a large selection of rare religious scrolls, ceremonial clothing, and ritual objects of the Yao, Tày, Sán Dìu, Cao Lan, Sán Chay, Nùng, and others of N. Vietnam and S.China. Each group has its own traditions of educating and initiating priests and shamans, who serve as intermediaries between the physical and spiritual worlds and between the community and deities, in order to make the universe right through healing, balancing the forces of nature, and communicating with ancestors. The Yao's practices are most prominently associated with Daoism, a religious and philosophical tradition of Chinese origin, while for the other peoples, Daoist beliefs are combined with aspects of Buddhism, Tantrism, and Confucianism.

The works of art provide examples of religious practices that include vibrantly colored and intricately embroidered priest robes and headdresses, a spectacular set of eighteen scrolls of elaborately painted deities, made for those engaged in the higher levels of initiation. A display evoking the shrines constructed for ceremonies, a film on contemporary religious practices in the region, and a selection of scrolls highlighting their recent conservation can also be seen in this exhibit.

All of the works on view are part of the Barry and Jill Kitnick Collection generously donated to the Fowler Museum in 2015. Two tours will be offered by Barry Kitnick, a longstanding EAC member and collector: Tour I at Noon and Tour II at 2 pm. Limited to 15 per session.

**RSVP by NOON Aug 2 to [feelie@ucla.edu](mailto:feelie@ucla.edu)**