



.... news flashes from the Ethnic Arts Council

August 2012

SAVE THE DATE!
EAC Annual Dinner and Silent Auction
October 7, 2012
Fowler Museum at UCLA



This year's event promises to be worth the wait! Surrounded by tribal and contemporary art, rich history, and the elegant ambiance of the Fowler Museum. EAC members and their guests will enjoy a fabulous evening dining under the stars with wonderful friends old and new and opportunities to bid on an array of art treasures and unique cultural experiences.

Dinner and auction proceeds will benefit the **EAC Grants Program** to fund museum exhibitions, acquisitions, publications, and research. Donations will be acknowledged in the dinner program and on the EAC website through September 2013. An Invitation will follow shortly.

Meanwhile, if you have renewed your EAC membership, thank you so much! If not yet, please do so by September 1, 2012. Checks are preferred (**send to Kaija Keel, 330 Beloit Ave., LA 90049**), but you may renew your membership, reserve dinner tickets for members and guests, and make other payments/donations online at: <http://www.ethnicartscouncil.org/donations-payments.htm>

Your donations are an invaluable part of the EAC Grants program, providing support to advance the knowledge, appreciation, and interest in Ethnic Art.

Please make an Auction Donation today!

Your tax-deductible donations of art, treasures, tickets, gift certificates, or vacation home will be greatly appreciated and will be recognized in the program and on the EAC website.

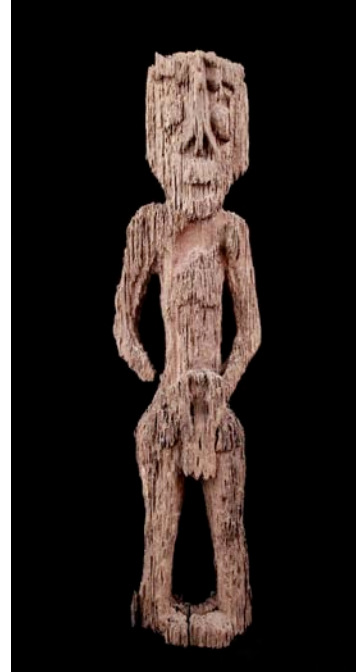
Please contact Mark Johnson: gallery@markajohnson.com or (888) 980-2662 or Georgia Case: casegeorgia@yahoo.com or (562) 276-3126 to make a contribution.



SILENT AUCTION ITEM PREVIEW:



Rare Shrine Door. Toraja, Sulawesi Island.



Ancestor Sculpture.
Dayak, Borneo Island.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS:

Katsina in Hopi Life:

June 29, 2012 to June 23, 2013

Autry National Center – Griffith Park

www.theautry.org

Katsina in Hopi Life, featuring remarkable *Katsina* dolls from the Autry's Southwest Museum of the American Indian Collection, provides a glimpse into Hopi life and culture. *Katsinam* (the plural form of *Katsina*) are spiritual beings who represent all aspects of life and travel to be with the Hopi people six months of the year. Told from the Hopi perspective, this exhibition shares the unique relationship the Hopi people have with the *Katsinam*, focusing on the values, lessons, and encouraging messages learned from them.





EAC funded the carving of 15 Katsina dolls by master carver Clayton Kaniatobe; they are featured in a showcase performing a Mixed Dance. Kaniatobe was commissioned to do the carvings using traditional cottonwood materials and techniques of the past. Because of its sacred nature, such dances cannot be performed before a live audience. These carvings, placed inside a diorama, are an important substitute.

PAST EAC PROGRAMS:

Program 10: The Mind of the Collector A Visit to the Home of Cindy & David Ruderman Sunday, June 10, 2012

Since its inauguration in 2006, the *Intrepid Collector Series* has focused on issues commonly faced by collectors in their passionate quest: collecting in a high-risk era, conserving the materials, and/or disposing the collection in a way that maximizes family and financial concerns. As the fifth in our series on the *Intrepid Collector*, this program focused was on the art, method, and psychology of collecting.

Over 50 members attended the tenth and last program of EAC before the summer break, touring the Mediterranean-style home of Dr. David and Cindy Ruderman, who have collected an eclectic mix of ethnographic material from around the world - tribal sculpture and textiles from Africa, New Guinea, Indonesia and the Americas.

The collection was born of an unsatisfied wanderlust and an early interest in Anthropology.” If you can't go live among the natives bring their stuff to you.” David, a practicing psychiatrist, then presented an intimate and humorous account of the psychology of collecting, the differences between collecting and decorating, and the full spectrum of collecting that includes memory and story-telling, the development of connoisseurship, to more aberrant activities such as obsessive-compulsive and hoarding behavior. David used his teaching and clinical skills to elicit enthusiastic comments from the audience sitting rapt during the presentation.



Dr. David Ruderman (left) with EAC members



EAC members at Ruderman home



EAC members enjoy Ruderman art collection



EAC members Alan Grinnell, David Ruderman, & David Hayden



LACMA's Nancy Thomas (ctr-lt) & Polly Roberts (rt) with Kevin Goff and Al Roberts

OTHER EAC NEWS:

First Meeting of EAC Tribal Asia Study Group:

The TRIBAL ASIAN STUDY GROUP was conceived by the EAC Board to allow members interested in this specific area of tribal art to get together on a semi-regular basis for intimate discussions of the material culture. The Board hopes additional study groups will be formed in other areas of ethnic art: African, Pre-Columbian, & Native American.

At this time the focus of the TASG is the **Austronesian** culture. The Austronesians include the aboriginal peoples of Taiwan (formally Formosa), the Philippines, Indonesia (other than New Guinea), Malaysia, and less well know areas in the Central Highlands of Vietnam and the island of Madagascar. Additionally, other areas of Asia, such as the Naga of Burma/India, and Himalayan cultures, with be included in these discussions.

To date, 13 EAC members expressed interest in this group. Of that number, 11



were able to attend our first meeting on May 30th: Mark Johnson (host), Peggy Jacobson, Tamara Hoffman, Avrum & Martha Bluming, Jerry Solomon, David Hayen, Scott Keesling, Mona Swerdloff, and new EAC members Joe & Bonnie Salamanca.

This initial meeting was organized to introduce members and establish goals. Everyone was given time to talk about their interest in tribal art. A few attendees brought items for discussion. The objects were passed around the room for direct examination, allowing for those members with specific information to add comments. It was decided that individual members should try to come up with a related topic on their own, so they can lead future discussions. We are planning another meeting after August.

Group members are encouraged to include as many "props": objects, publications, slides, maps, etc., as possible that will add to the depth of the discussion and give us as much of a "hands on" experience as possible. Every meeting is an opportunity for members to bring a few interesting pieces (even ones off topic) for us to handle and discuss.

And lastly: there are NO stupid questions. The main point of this study group is to allow for intimate, informal, and informative discussions. We don't want to leave anyone behind or out of the loop, so if attendees are unsure what an object is used for, the meaning of a term, or the location of a tribe...anything at all, we want you to hold the discussion and get clarity before moving on.

For additional information, please email Mark at: gallery@markajohnson.com.



Avrum, Martha, Bonnie, & Peggy



Tamara, Bonnie, & Joe



Scott, David, Jerry, Tamara, & Mona



EAC Grants Fund - Art Purchase for LACMA:

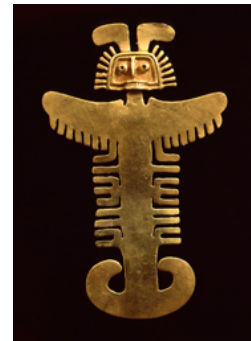
The EAC Board authorized funds to help purchase a rare and beautiful early 20th century hand painted scroll from Bali Island for the South Asia Arts Council. Several EAC members are also members of the SAAC, with some contributing additional private funds for the purchase. The scroll will soon be on display at LACMA.



Scroll Detail

EAC Grants Fund - Publication for Bowers Museum:

The EAC Board authorized funds to cover part of the costs of the Bowers Museum publication: *Sacred Gold: Pre-Hispanic Art of Colombia* from the renowned Museo del Oro in Bogotá, Colombia. The publication includes over 200 gold figures and ornaments full of expression and inventiveness inspired by the natural environment and by supernatural visions.



New Director at Autry National Center:



Former Director of the National Museum of the American Indian, W. Richard West, Jr. is the new Executive Director and CEO of the Autry National Center.

His predecessor, John Grey, who attended all our EAC dinners, was called out of retirement after he left the Autry 2 years ago and is now the Director of the American History Museum at the Smithsonian!



Membership Renewal begins June 15th and ends September 1st!



Endnotes:

Please send any relevant information, upcoming events, news, articles, or opinions for consideration for publication in future issues of the EAC e-news to Mark Johnson, current editor, at: gallery@markajohnson.com.

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The Ethnic Arts Council of Los Angeles (EAC)

- **Dedicated to Advancing the Knowledge, Interest, and Appreciation of Ethnic Art •**

Become a member! Contact: info@ethnicartscouncil.org

