EAC Program



Saturday · May 12, 2012 · 2-5 pm · Ojai Valley

The Greg and Mechas Grinnell Collection

with Dr. Elena Phipps

In an unusual offering - a tour of the Grinnell collection and a talk by Dr. Elena Phipps, former conservator of the Metropolitan Museum of Art for the past 33 years - EAC's 9th program will attract the adventurous and committed! Nestled in the famous Ojai valley, the Grinnells' new Ranch style home on two landscaped acres has been redesigned by architect Mechas Grinnell to properly display their collection of pre-Columbian, Colombian ceramics, Amazonian feather work, and historic tribal textiles and sculptures from Bolivia, Indonesia and SE Asia.

The pre-Columbian ceramic figures, many published, reflect the diversity of the distinct cultures found in the geographically diverse Colombian landscape. A large number of Bolivian, 19th C. Aymara, Indonesian and SE Asian textiles and tribal art are on display, accentuated by the brilliant colors of Amazonian feather work pieces from the cultures of the Karaja, Kayapo, Rikbaktsa, Waura and Waura-Aparai cultures of the Amazon basin.

Dr. Phipps, a textile specialist, will lecture on the art history of Cochineal Red, a crimson color produced by a small insect that lives on cactus that originated in the Americas and was used throughout the Pre-Columbian world. Much sought because it became the primary source of red throughout the world, Phipps traces the use and meaning of this remarkable color especially in the textiles from the Met and the Grinnell collection. Limit: 35 persons.

RSVP by Noon May 9, 2012