

THE CHARLES B. WANG CENTER

SPRING 2018 CULTURAL PROGRAMS



THE CHARLES B. WANG CENTER

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PHOTO BY HEATHER WALSH

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

As we begin the new year, I would like to thank you for taking part in the Charles B. Wang Center's programs. Through your participation and interest, we are not only able to bring Asian art and culture to life, but we can also share them with the Stony Brook community and much of Long Island.

The Wang Center will celebrate even more diverse Asian arts and culture this year, and I am proud to present new cultural programs for you all to enjoy this season. These programs will highlight a theme you might think a little unusual, but one I hope you will find fascinating: the potato! From the exhibit *Potasía: Potatoism in the East*, to lectures about the potato's place in Asian art and history, to workshops integrating potato materials and motifs—these are just some of the programs that may teach you a lot about that humble starchy vegetable. We will of course be holding our annual celebration of Lunar New Year and a cherry blossom festival as well.

You help make the Wang Center an inspiring place for everyone to learn and have fun, and we are grateful for your continuing enthusiasm and generosity.

With best wishes for a happy and auspicious Year of the Dog in 2018,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jinyoung Jin'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

Jinyoung Jin
Director of Cultural Programs

GALLERY & BUILDING HOURS

Monday through Friday: 10 AM — 8 PM
Saturdays and Sundays: 12 PM — 8 PM
Admission is free and open to the public.

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Image credit (front and back cover):

Hwang In-Je, *The Potato Flower Fragrance of Taehongdan County*, 1999,
Linoleum print (Ed. 1 of 5), 16 x 32 inches, Courtesy of Koryo Tours.

THE CHARLES B. WANG CENTER CALENDAR

SPRING '18 EXHIBITIONS

OPENING RECEPTION

Wednesday, 3/21 | 5 PM | Skylight Gallery

POTASIA: POTATO IN THE EAST

ON VIEW 3/15 – 6/15
Skylight Gallery

SIMPLICITY OVER COMPLEXITY BY JONGIL MA

Long-term Installation
Wang Center Outdoor Garden

SPACE DRAWING

BY SUN K. KWAK
Long-term Installation
Theatre Gallery

EXPLORE HISTORY OBJECTS FROM ASIA

MITSUKO'S GARDEN: A BIT OF KYOTO IN STONY BROOK

Long-term Installation
Garden View Gallery

LECTURES, FILMS, & OTHER PROGRAMS

2/18
2-4 PM
FESTIVAL | LUNAR
NEW YEAR
Chapel, Theatre Lobby

2/18
3-4:30 PM
PERFORMANCE |
CHINESE NEW YEAR
Theatre

3/8
6-8 PM
FILM | *I CAN SPEAK*
Theatre

3/21
4:30 PM
4/26
3 PM
ART CRAWL | GUIDED
EXHIBITION TOUR
Skylight Gallery

3/22
4-5 PM
LECTURE | THE MOTIF OF POTATOES
IN KOREAN MEDIA (OLD AND NEW)
Lecture Hall I

3/23, 30
3-5 PM
WORKSHOP | CHINESE PAPER CUTTING
Chapel

3/27
1-5 PM
LECTURE | POTATOISM: A GLOBAL HISTORY
OF POTATO ART
Lecture Hall I

4/4
4-5:30 PM
FILM | *FACTORY COMPLEX*
Theatre

4/5
1-2 PM
LECTURE | ELECTRIC DESIGN: LIGHT,
LABOR, AND LEISURE IN PREWAR
JAPANESE ADVERTISING
Lecture Hall I

4/6
10 AM-12 PM
1-3 PM
WORKSHOP | POTATO PRINTS
Chapel

4/11
4-5:30 PM
FILM | *OUT OF FOCUS*
Lecture Hall I

4/12, 19, 26
3-5 PM
WORKSHOP | CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY
Room 101

4/13
6-7 PM
PERFORMANCE | SUFI DANCE FROM PERSIA
Theatre

4/18
4-5:30 PM
FILM | *TASTE OF CEMENT*
Lecture Hall I

4/20
10 AM-12 PM
1-3 PM
WORKSHOP | SMALL POTATOES:
CREATING CROCHET *AMIGURUMI*
Chapel

4/27
3-4 PM
LECTURE | NORTH KOREA: ADDRESSING HUMAN
NEEDS IN A CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT
Lecture Hall I

5/4, 11
11 AM-1 PM
2-4 PM
WORKSHOP | THE ELEGANT ART OF
KNOT JEWELRY FOR MOTHER'S DAY
Room 201

5/6
12-5 PM
FESTIVAL | CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL
Charles B. Wang Center

5/10
6-7 PM
PERFORMANCE | *DALLAE STORY:*
A PUPPET SHOW
Theatre

6/1, 8, 15
12-4 PM
WORKSHOP | CREATING A SEE-THROUGH
WINDOW HANGING PATCHWORK
Room 102

OPENING RECEPTION
WED, MAR 21 at 5 PM

Skylight Gallery
 Free and Open to the Public
 RSVP at thewangcenter.org



ON VIEW

MARCH 15 — JUNE 15, 2018

Image credit: Hwang In-Je, *The Potato Flower Fragrance of Taehongdan County*, 1999, Linoleum print (Ed. 1 of 5), 16 x 32 inches, Courtesy of Koryo Tours.

POTASIA

POTATOISM IN THE EAST

Skylight Gallery

Curated by Director Jinyoung Jin of the Charles B. Wang Center and artist Jeffrey Allen Price, this exhibition features an insightful and entertaining survey of artworks with the potato as their central subject matter. The pieces showcase a wide spectrum of potatoes, in all manner of genres and situations—from the fantastical to the realistic, from the comedic to the serious. The potato is not only a nutritious and earthy food but, as featured in these Asian artworks, it is also an egalitarian, versatile, multifaceted, multilingual, and multidisciplinary motif.

With a focus on contemporary Asian art—featuring installations, sculpture, drawings, paintings, photos, videos, and even socialist propaganda posters—*Potasia: Potatoism in the East* highlights a number of curious and fascinating examples of the ubiquitous potato as represented in Asian popular culture in fine art, books, videos, cartoons, movies, songs, toys, and snacks.

RELATED PROGRAMS

ART CRAWL | **GUIDED EXHIBITION TOUR BY JEFFREY ALLEN PRICE** |
 MARCH 21, 4:30 PM | SKYLIGHT GALLERY (PAGES 12–13)

LECTURE | **THE MOTIF OF POTATOES IN KOREAN MEDIA (OLD AND NEW)** |
 MARCH 22, 4 PM | LECTURE HALL I (PAGE 18)

LECTURE | **POTATOISM: A GLOBAL HISTORY OF POTATO ART** |
 MARCH 27, 1 PM | LECTURE HALL I (PAGE 19)

WORKSHOP | **POTATO PRINTS** |
 APRIL 6, 10 AM, 1 PM | CHAPEL (PAGE 23)

WORKSHOP | **SMALL POTATOES: CREATING CROCHET AMIGURUMI** |
 APRIL 20, 10 AM, 1 PM | CHAPEL (PAGE 26)

LECTURE | **NORTH KOREA: ADDRESSING HUMAN NEEDS
 IN A CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT** |
 APRIL 27, 3 PM | LECTURE HALL I (PAGE 21)



ASIA WEEK NEW YORK | MARCH 15–24 |
WWW.ASIAWEEKNY.COM



SIMPLICITY OVER COMPLEXITY

Outdoor Garden

Brooklyn-based Korean American artist Jongil Ma revives the Charles B. Wang Center's outdoor garden with architecturally woven sculptures, using varying lengths and types of thin wooden strips, both in their raw state and dyed in color. Three large, site-specific installations balance the positive with the negative, tranquility with tension, and stillness with movement. The installations interact with the Wang Center's architecture and spatial dynamics, transforming the garden through a multiplicity of viewing possibilities.

ON VIEW

LONG-TERM INSTALLATION

Image credit: Installation view at the Charles B. Wang Center. Photo by Jongil Ma



SPACE DRAWING

BY SUN K. KWAK

Theatre Gallery

New York-based Korean-American artist Sun K. Kwak's canvas is architectural space and her primary medium is black masking tape. Kwak achieves the effect of painterly strokes by tearing away the tape from the surfaces of architectural spaces. Her sprawling freehand strokes weave designs over surfaces to dramatic effect. Kwak has created a site-specific installation at the Charles B. Wang Center with lines that liberate the space, and in doing so, transforms the space into a new pictorial reality.

Shurtape

The Charles B. Wang Center thanks Shurtape for its in-kind donation of materials in support of this exhibition.

ON VIEW

LONG-TERM INSTALLATION

Image credit: Photo by Heather Walsh

ART CRAWL

A GUIDED TOUR OF CAMPUS GALLERIES

MAR 21 at 4:30 PM

Tour of University Libraries Special Collections, Zuccaire Gallery, and the Charles B. Wang Center.
Reception will follow at the Charles B. Wang Center.

APR 26 at 3 PM

Tour of Zuccaire Gallery, Alloway Gallery, and Simons Center Gallery.
Reception will follow at the Simons Center Gallery.

Stony Brook University hosts a variety of renowned art galleries that provide unique spaces and opportunities for cultural and artistic exchanges and collaborations. Our art crawls unite our university's galleries through a series of free, guided tours led by expert curators. This initiative directly supports the university's commitment to celebrating diversity and promotes the university's place in the global community. Each art crawl will offer tours of three to four galleries, visiting each for about 30 minutes, before ending with a reception.

Jeffrey Allen Price, the co-curator of ***Potasia: Potatoism in the East***, will guide visitors through the current exhibit on March 21.

Art Crawl is funded by the Presidential Mini-grant for Departmental Diversity.

Free Admission | Reservation Required
RSVP at thewangcenter.org



PERFORMANCES

FEB 18 at 3 PM

Theatre

Admission: \$10 (General/SBU Students/Seniors)

Free for Children under 12

Tickets at thewangcenter.org

Note: The admission fee covers **ONLY** the Chinese New Year performance at the theatre. If you would like to join the **Lunar New Year** family activities, please purchase a separate ticket under FESTIVALS.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Celebrating the Year of the Dog

In celebration of Chinese New Year, the Confucius Institute offers a must-see magic show, Chinese dance, folk songs, and Peking opera! The celebration also includes traditional Lunar New Year craft activities from China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam. Enjoy our cultural offerings and stay late for our grand finale dinner.

RELATED PROGRAM

FESTIVAL | **LUNAR NEW YEAR** | FEB 18, 2 PM |
CHAPEL, THEATRE LOBBY (PAGES 34-35)

Co-presented with the Confucius
Institute at Stony Brook University.



Image credit: Photo by Tingting



SUFI DANCE FROM PERSIA

Performed by Rana Gorgani with live music by Hedayat Shafeei and Mehdi Darvishi.

In Sufism, dance is a spiritual practice known as *Samâ* and is related to “spiritual hearing.” To reach the deepest realms of their souls, dancers whirl to the repetitive cadence of Sufi music. The powerful rhythm of the music is reminiscent of the human heartbeat, creating a mystical intoxication of beat and movement. France-based Iranian choreographer and dancer Rana Gorgani will perform, accompanied by the talented Hedayat Shafeei on the *tar* (a traditional Iranian string instrument) and by Mehdi Darvishi, master of Iranian percussions.

APR 13 at 6 PM

Theatre

Admission: \$20 (General) | \$10 (Students/Seniors)

Free for Children under 5

Tickets at thewangcenter.org





SUPPORTER OF CULTURAL PROGRAMS AT THE CHARLES B. WANG CENTER

Bishembarnath and Sheela Mattoo
CENTER FOR INDIA STUDIES

THE MATTOO CENTER FOR INDIA STUDIES

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DALLAE STORY A PUPPET SHOW

Presented by Art Stage San, a Korean professional performing arts company, *Dallae Story* is a nonverbal puppet show. It is about an ingenuous child named Dallae and her ordinary family, whose lives are interrupted by Korean War (1950–1953). The piece does not directly talk about the war itself, but rather portrays the efforts of a family to overcome hardship during wartime in a fairy tale-like fantasy. The story is expressed through hand manipulation of the puppets, beginning with Dallae's birth to her sweet childhood with her family and then finally to wartime, with sets of the four seasons representing both the stages of life and the passage of time.

MAY 10 at 6 PM

Theatre

Admission: \$20 (General) | \$10 (Students/Seniors)

Free for Children under 5

Tickets at thewangcenter.org

LECTURES



Cover of the novel *Sweet Potato*. Art by Jee-ook Choi, 2017

THE MOTIF OF POTATOES IN KOREAN MEDIA (OLD AND NEW)

by Grace Jung

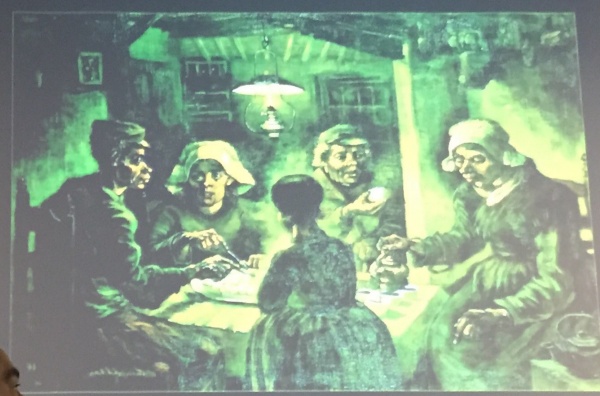
In conjunction with the Wang Center's current exhibition, *Potasia: Potatoism in the East*, Grace Jung will talk about the theme of potatoes as a significant motif in Korean literature, film, and television. Jung has recently published an English-language translation of Korean author Kim Tongjin's classic novel *Sweet Potato*.

RELATED PROGRAM

EXHIBITION | *POTASIA: POTATOISM IN THE EAST* |
MARCH 15–JUNE 15 | SKYLIGHT GALLERY
(PAGES 6–7)

MAR 22 at 4 PM

Lecture Hall I
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org



The Potato Eaters
April–May 1885
oil on canvas
32 x 114 cm
on left chair: Vincent
Van Gogh, Van Gogh Museum

POTATOISM: A GLOBAL HISTORY OF POTATO ART

by Jeffrey Allen Price

Artist and professor of art history Jeffrey Allen Price will give a lecture on the history of the potato as found in works of art from ancient Peru, thru Modernism and the European avant-garde, to contemporary art around the world. Potatoism (a term coined by Price) is a key concept that underlies much of Price's interdisciplinary works and activities, which include curating art exhibitions on potato art, organizing potato-themed events such as lectures and performances, and collecting over 5,000 potato-themed artifacts from numerous cultures and countries through his organization, Think Potato Institute.

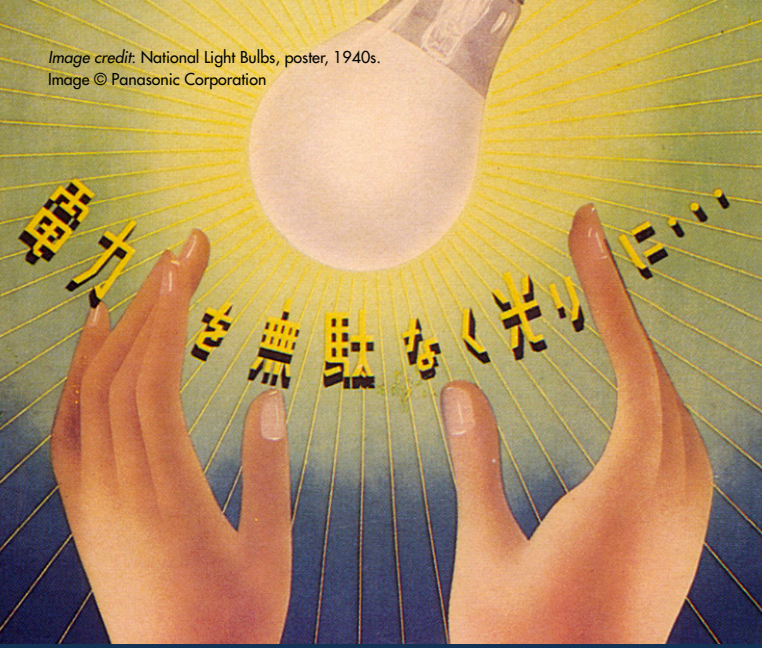
RELATED PROGRAM

EXHIBITION | *POTASIA: POTATOISM IN THE EAST* |
MARCH 15–JUNE 15 | SKYLIGHT GALLERY (PAGES 6–7)

MAR 27 at 1 PM

Lecture Hall I
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

Image credit: National Light Bulbs, poster, 1940s.
Image © Panasonic Corporation



ELECTRIC DESIGN

LIGHT, LABOR, AND LEISURE IN PREWAR JAPANESE ADVERTISING

by Gennifer Weisenfeld

Electricity is powerful—it is an integral element to modern life. It is also a social and cultural force of unparalleled proportions, one that forever altered the history and landscape of the world when it was first harnessed. Electricity produces the bright lights in our big cities; it is the visual language of the modern urban metropolis, lighting up burlesques, cinemas, and signboards. It also facilitated the production of modern domesticity by expanding and diversifying the number of tools and services in the burgeoning consumer market. Nevertheless, electricity did not market or sell itself. Two Japanese companies at the forefront of creating this electrifying market were actively engaged in innovative advertising design throughout the twentieth century: Tōshiba and Matsushita.

APR 5 at 1 PM

Lecture Hall I
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

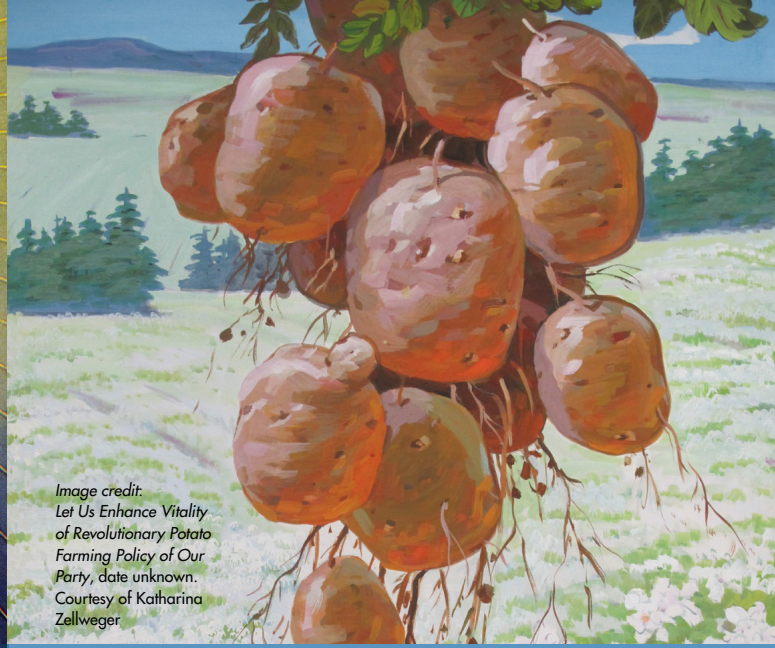


Image credit:
*Let Us Enhance Vitality
of Revolutionary Potato
Farming Policy of Our
Party*, date unknown.
Courtesy of Katharina
Zellweger

NORTH KOREA

ADDRESSING HUMAN NEEDS IN A CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT

by Katharina Zellweger

North Korea remains a closed-off society. After international aid projects and programs began in the mid-1990s in response to a devastating famine, however, more information began to become available about the social, humanitarian, and economic situation in the country. Yet the international community continues to grapple with the question of whether or not—and if so, how—to engage with North Korea. Based on hands-on experience and frequent visits, Katharina Zellweger will share some of her insights on everyday life in North Korea, the changing food security situation, and what can be done to help the country's citizens move forward, develop, and grow, despite a complex political environment.

APR 27 at 3 PM

Lecture Hall I
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

RELATED PROGRAM

EXHIBITION | *POTASIA: POTATOISM
IN THE EAST* | MARCH 15–JUNE 15
| SKYLIGHT GALLERY (PAGES 6–7)

WORKSHOPS



CHINESE PAPER CUTTING

Offered by the Confucius Institute, this workshop provides participants with insight into the history, culture, and folk traditions of paper cutting in China. Once participants have mastered the basic techniques, they will practice cutting paper into animals, flowers, and traditional Chinese patterns. Participants will be guided step by step to create their own artwork, and will be able to bring their work home or present them as gifts to family or friends.

*Co-presented with the
Confucius Institute at
Stony Brook University.*



MAR 23, 30 at 3 PM

Chapel
Admission: \$20 (General) | \$10 (Students/Seniors)
Fee includes all materials for two sessions.
Each workshop session is limited to 30 participants.

Tickets at thewangcenter.org



POTATO PRINTS

Lead by artist/curator Jeffrey Allen Price and guest artist Puneeta Mittal, this workshop will showcase various potato stamp techniques you can use to create your own unique works of art. Puneeta Mittal will also discuss the ancient art of Indian block printing, as well as current trends in modern fashion and textile design and their connection to patterns Indian designers have been using for centuries.

Participants will print their own designs using the stamps and will take home 1–2 projects on various paper surfaces and one small 4 x 4 burlap canvas.

RELATED PROGRAM

EXHIBITION | [POTASIA: POTATOISM IN THE EAST](#) |
MARCH 15–JUNE 15 | SKYLIGHT GALLERY (PAGES 6–7)

Session 1: APR 6 at 10 AM

Session 2: APR 6 at 1 PM

Chapel

Admission: \$20 (General) | \$10 (Students/Seniors)
Fee includes all materials.

Please choose one of two sessions at your convenience.
Each workshop session is limited to 30 participants.

Tickets at thewangcenter.org



CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY

Chinese calligraphy is the traditional art of writing characters from the Chinese language using a brush and ink. It is the root of many other forms of Chinese cultural art, and works of calligraphy can be seen adorning the walls of shops, offices, and houses almost everywhere in China. The English word “calligraphy” literally means “beautiful writing,” and when you see good calligraphy, you can certainly appreciate the subtle aesthetics of line and stroke. The Confucius Institute at Stony Brook University offers a workshop that teaches participants how to create their own works of Chinese calligraphy.

*Co-presented with the Confucius
Institute at Stony Brook University.*

APR 12, 19, 26 at 3 PM

Room 101

Admission: \$20 (General) | \$10 (Students/Seniors)

Fee is for all **THREE** sessions and includes all materials.

Each workshop session is limited to 30 participants.

Tickets at thewangcenter.org



SUPPORTER OF CULTURAL PROGRAMS AT THE CHARLES B. WANG CENTER

THE CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE

THE CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE

Charles B. Wang Center, First Floor
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SMALL POTATOES

CREATING CROCHET *AMIGURUMI*

Want to create an adorable 3-inch potato spirit? In this class taught by Thien Nguyen August, you'll be able to make your own whimsical crochet potato spirit in the Japanese style of *amigurumi*! *Amigurumi* is the Japanese art of crocheting small stuffed creatures out of yarn, and there is no limit to where your imagination can take you. Thien is a pattern designer, a crochet artist, and the owner of Tiny Island Handmade, and she specializes in crocheted toys and clothing. She will share her best tips for making *amigurumi*, from choosing the right yarns and hooks, to marking and counting stitches, to stuffing, assembling, and finishing your stuffed creature. Some experience with crochet or knitting is helpful, but not required.

Session 1: APR 20 at 10 AM

Session 2: APR 20 at 1 PM

Chapel

Admission: \$20 (General) | \$10 (Students/Seniors)

Fee includes all materials.

Please choose one of two sessions at your convenience.

Each workshop session is limited to 15 participants.

Tickets at thewangcenter.org



THE ELEGANT ART

OF KNOT JEWELRY

FOR MOTHER'S DAY

The unique art of Korean knot-making utilizes all sorts of braids and ornamental shapes to decorate dresses and accessories. There are around 38 types of Korean knot-making techniques, and the harmony and combinations of colors, braids, and patterns are what makes the art still much beloved by people today. Master artist Karen Ahn will demonstrate how to make the perfect handmade gift for your mom or loved one. You will leave with a special pin and necklace of your own design.

Session 1: MAY 4, 11 at 11 AM

Session 2: MAY 4, 11 at 2 PM

Room 201

Admission: \$30 (General) | \$15 (Students/Seniors) for two sessions

Fee includes all materials for two jewelry items.

Please choose one of two sessions at your convenience.

Each workshop session is limited to 20 participants.

Tickets at thewangcenter.org



CREATING A SEE-THROUGH WINDOW HANGING PATCHWORK

Pojagi is a Korean form of patchwork using scraps of transparent or semi-transparent fabrics, such as silk organza, hemp, or ramie. It can lend a gorgeous look to any room, whether you hang it in a window (where the seams show up against the light) or away from a wall (so light can form colored shadows on the wall behind). Textile artist Wonju Seo will show how to create a large, functional hanging piece with simple block patterns of your own design.

This is a hand-sewing class. A sewing machine is not required.

JUN 1, 8, 15 at 12 PM

Room 102

Admission: \$100 (General) | \$80 (Students/Seniors)

Fee is for all **THREE** sessions and includes all materials.

The workshop is limited to 15 participants.

Tickets at thewangcenter.org



SUPPORTER OF CULTURAL PROGRAMS AT THE CHARLES B. WANG CENTER

THE CENTER FOR KOREAN STUDIES



THE CENTER FOR KOREAN STUDIES

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Heejeong Sohn, Assistant Director

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Want to hear my story?

FILMS



I CAN SPEAK

(2017 | 120 minutes | Drama/Comedy | Directed by Kim Hyun-seok)

An elderly Korean woman constantly files complaints with her municipal office about the wrongs she sees around her each and every day. Along the way, she forms an unlikely friendship with a junior civil service officer, who begins to teach her English. As he and his student grow closer, the civil servant realizes the real reason behind why this relentless elderly woman wants to learn English and comes to be one of her most ardent, important supporters. Though the film is a comedy, the film does not shy away from discussing the deeper, still sensitive topic of Korean "comfort women," women and girls forced into sexual slavery by the Imperial Japanese Army in occupied Korea before and during World War II.

Discussion and Q&A led by Professor Heejeong Sohn, Assistant Director of the Center for Korean Studies at Stony Brook University.

MAR 8 at 6 PM

Theatre
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

Presented by the Center for Korean Studies at Stony Brook University.



FACTORY COMPLEX

(2016 | 92 minutes | Documentary | *In Korean, with English subtitles* | Directed by Im Heung-soon)

The winner of the Silver Lion at the 2015 Venice Biennale, Im Heung-soon's powerful documentary is both an artful exposé that examines the nature of exploitation and a lyrical ode to the female working poor. *Factory Complex* provides a rare insight into the world of working women and their ongoing struggles, as hard-won earnings and workers' rights are swallowed up by a rapidly modernizing society.

The film is presented as a part of the Human Rights Film Festival by the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature, and funded by the Presidential Mini-grant for Departmental Diversity.

Discussion and Q&A led by Professor E. K. Tan and Professor Mireille Rebeiz from the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature at Stony Brook University.

APR 4 at 4 PM

Theatre
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org



OUT OF FOCUS

(2017 | 88 minutes | Documentary | *In Mandarin, with English subtitles* | Directed by Shengze Zhu)

This documentary offers a harsh and unsettling portrait of poverty and urbanism through the sobering perspectives of “migrant children” in modern China. These children were originally from rural areas but have since moved to Wuhan, as their parents chase work and the possibility of a better life in the most populous city in central China. Many of the children fell in love with the bustling city at first, a huge change from the quiet, tranquil countryside existences they previously lived. They grow ambitious about the bright futures the big city could provide them.

The film is presented as a part of the Human Rights Film Festival by the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature, and funded by the Presidential Mini-grant for Departmental Diversity.

APR 11 at 4 PM

Lecture Hall I
Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

Discussion and Q&A led by Professor E. K. Tan and Professor Mireille Rebeiz from the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature at Stony Brook University.



TASTE OF CEMENT

(2017 | 85 minutes | Documentary | *In Arabic with English subtitles* | Directed by Ziad Kalthoum)

In Beirut, Syrian construction workers build a skyscraper. At the same time, back in Syria, their houses are being shelled into rubble. Though war and armed conflict have quieted in Lebanon, the Syrian civil war still rages on. The Syrian workers often find themselves locked in the building site, not allowed to leave until after 7 p.m. To make their lives even harder, the Lebanese government has imposed night-time curfews on all refugees. The only contact with the outside world for these Syrian workers is the hole through which they climb out in the morning to begin a new day of work. Cut off from their homeland, they gather at night around a small TV set to get news from Syria. Tormented by anguish and anxiety, suffering and deprived of the most basic human and workers' rights, they nevertheless hope for a different, better life.

The film is presented as a part of the Human Rights Film Festival by the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature, and funded by the Presidential Mini-grant for Departmental Diversity.

APR 18 at 4 PM

Lecture Hall I | Free Admission
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

Discussion and Q&A led by Professor E. K. Tan and Professor Mireille Rebeiz from the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature at Stony Brook University.

FESTIVALS

FEB 18 at 2 PM

Admission: \$10 (General/SBU Students/Seniors)
Free for Children under 12

Tickets at thewangcenter.org

Note: This ticket will cover **ONLY** Lunar New Year Family Activities. Please purchase a **Chinese New Year** ticket if you wish to join the performances and dinner.

VIETNAM OF MYTHICAL TALES AND SONGS

2-2:45 PM | CHAPEL

LUNAR NEW YEAR FAMILY ACTIVITIES

3-4 PM | THEATRE LOBBY

LUNAR NEW YEAR THE YEAR OF THE DOG

Join us in saying goodbye to the Year of the Rooster and welcoming the Year of the Dog at the Wang Center's signature Lunar New Year Festival! This year, we will showcase Vietnamese songs and musical tales, as well as offer family craft activities from China, Japan, and Korea, including Korean fortune pouch-making, Chinese paper cutting, and much more.

RELATED PROGRAM

PERFORMANCE | **CHINESE NEW YEAR** | FEB 18, 3 PM |
THEATRE (PAGE 14)





SAKURA MATSURI CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

Welcome spring to Long Island with the blooming of *sakura* (cherry blossoms), the sounds of taiko drums, and a wondrous array of Japanese cultural exhibits at the Wang Center! The Wang Center will provide many exciting activities, including *ikebana* flower arrangement, tea workshops, *manga* drawing, origami paper folding, kimono dress-ups, and *cosplay* (costumed role-play of a Japanese *manga* character) for all ages. Please join us in your favorite *manga* character costume.

Space is limited for the workshops, so make your reservation fast! For tickets and additional information, visit our website.

This festival is co-produced by the Japan Center at Stony Brook University and the Ryu Shu Kan Japanese Arts Center.

MAY 6 at 12 PM

Charles B. Wang Center
(Rain or Shine)

Admission: \$20 (General)

\$10 (High School and College Students/Seniors)

\$5 (Children ages 6-12)

FREE for Children ages 5 and under

Tickets at thewangcenter.org



SUPPORTER OF CULTURAL PROGRAMS AT THE CHARLES B. WANG CENTER

THE JAPAN CENTER

THE JAPAN CENTER

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ZEN ROCK GARDEN

Outdoor Garden


Located on the first floor, in between the meeting rooms 101 and 102 at the Charles B. Wang Center, this Japanese rock garden (*karesansui* 枯山水) was created by Gerard Senese and his wife Hiroko Uraga-Senese as a tribute to the appreciation of Japanese culture. Japanese gardens are rich with symbolism, and they are usually created with certain meanings and wishes in mind. The Wang Center's new Zen garden features symbols of Buddhist paradises with a tortoise islet (*kame-jima*) and a crane islet (*tsuru-jima*). Made with rocks, the tortoise symbolizes prosperity and the crane symbolizes health and good luck.

Visit the garden as a place for quiet contemplation.

ON VIEW

LONG-TERM INSTALLATION

Image credit: Zen Rock Garden, Charles B. Wang Center, 2017

A vibrant landscape painting of a field of yellow wildflowers under a blue sky with white birds flying. The foreground is filled with a dense field of bright yellow wildflowers. In the middle ground, a line of green trees separates the field from the sky. Several white birds are shown in flight, scattered across the blue sky. The overall style is reminiscent of a traditional Chinese ink and wash painting, but with a more colorful and detailed approach.

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