

# Unfolding the Coromandel Screen

Visual Mobility, Inscribed Objecthood, and Global Lives

22-23 November 2024  
International Conference at City University of Hong Kong  
Connie Fan Multi-Media Conference Room



Sponsored by

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- Art Museum of The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Hong Kong Maritime Museum
- Lee Shau Kee Library of The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- Guangdong Provincial Museum
- Guangzhou Museum
- Chen Clan Ancestral Hall – Guangdong Folk Arts Museum

## Onsite and Online Conference



Registration

### Inquiries

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### Image Credit

Coromandel Lacquer Screen (detail), Kangxi period (1661-1722), carved lacquer, six-fold, each panel H 258, W 52, T 3.5 cm. Collection of Art Museum, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Gift of Friends of the Art Museum, Accession number 2001.0660

### 14:45–16:00 Panel VII: Coromandel Screens and Their Global Lives – Part Two

Chair: Florian Knothe, University Museum and Art Gallery, The University of Hong Kong

*The 'Japanese Cabinet' at the Hermitage in Bayreuth, Germany*

Patricia Frick, Museum für Lackkunst, Münster

*The Ludic Afterlife of Coromandel Screens: Integrating the Swinging Woman into Eighteenth-Century French Interiors*

Weixun Qu, Washington University in St. Louis

Discussant: Greg M. Thomas, The University of Hong Kong

16:00–16:15 Short Break

### 16:15–18:00 Panel VIII: The Afterlives of the Coromandel Screens

Chair: May Bo Ching, City University of Hong Kong

*Art Dealer Florine Langweil and the European Market for Coromandel Screens in the Early Twentieth Century*

Elizabeth Emery, Montclair State University, New Jersey

*Inspiring Art Deco in Britain: The Architect, the Theatre, and the Coromandel Screen*

Helen Glaister, Victoria and Albert Museum, London

*Shifting Identities and Global Circulation of the Coromandel Screen in Early-Twentieth Century Buenos Aires*

Mariana Zegianini, SOAS University of London

*The Framework of Modernism: Lacquer Screen and Fashion Imagination in the 1920s*

Mei Mei Rado, Bard Graduate Center, New York

Discussant: Sandy Ng, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

## Day 1 Friday, 22 November

- 8:30–9:00 Registration, Connie Fan Multi-Media Conference Room
- 9:00–9:15 **Welcome Address and Introduction by**  
May Bo Ching, City University of Hong Kong  
Lianming Wang, City University of Hong Kong  
Mei Mei Rado, Bard Graduate Center, New York
- 9:15–10:00 **Transcultural Treasures: Kuancai (aka Coromandel) Screens in China and Abroad**  
Keynote by Jan Stuart, National Museum of Asian Art, Washington D.C.
- 10:00–10:15 Coffee break
- 10:15–11:15 **Panel I: Coromandel Screens as Sites of Power Representation**  
Chair: Libby Chan, Indra and Harry Banga Gallery, City University of Hong Kong  
*Place, Scale, and Medium in Several Cartographic Coromandel Screens*  
Stephen Whiteman, The Courtauld Institute of Art, London  
*Picture of the Immense Sea: Temporal and Spatial Transformation on the Birthday Celebration Screen of Nan'ao* [in Chinese with English subtitles]  
Weiqi Guo, Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts  
Discussant: Marco Caboara, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- 11:15–12:40 **Panel II: Coromandel Screens and Intra-Asian Visual Entanglements**  
Chair: Wan Chui Ki Maggie, The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
*Coromandel Screens and Japanese Seminary Painters in Macau*  
Yoshie Kojima, Waseda University, Tokyo  
*When the Barbarians Came by Sea: Hunting Screens in China and Japan*  
Lianming Wang, City University of Hong Kong  
*Transcultural Pictorial Dynamics: Coromandel Screens and Joseon Court Painting and Visual Culture*  
Yoonjung Seo, Myongji University, Seoul  
Discussant: Anton Schweizer, Kyushu University, Fukuoka
- 12:40–14:00 Lunch break

## 14:00–15:40 Panel III: Format, Motif, and Technique:

### Understanding Coromandel Screens

Chair: Daisy Wang, Hong Kong Palace Museum

*A Screen So Grand: Coromandel Screens from the Perspective of Scale*

Tingting Xu, University of Rochester, New York

*Decoding Frames: Unveiling Names, Provenance, and Connections of the Framed Images on the 'Dutch Tribute Screen' kept in the National Museum of Denmark, Copenhagen*

Xialing Liu, Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing / Utrecht University

*Textiles, Taste, and Templates – Kuancai Screens' Motifs and Techniques*

Ricarda Brosch, Museum am Rothenbaum – Woldrd Culture and Arts, Hamburg

*Copy Culture and Commodification as Seen in Coromandel Screens and Related Lacquerwares, 1680–1780*

Tamara Bentley, Colorado College

Discussant: Zhenpeng Zhan, Sun Yat-Sen University, Zhuhai

## 15:40–16:00 Short Coffee Break & Refreshment

## 16:00–17:30 Panel IV: Materials and Conservation: Perspectives from Labs and Workshops

Chair: Josh Yiu, Art Museum, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

*On the Origins and Regional Differences of the Kuancai Screens* [in Chinese with English subtitles]

Bei Chang, Southeast University, Nanjing; Linlong Li, Centre de recherche sur les civilisations de l'Asie orientale, Paris

*A Conservator's Perspective: Technical Examination and Treatment Strategies for Coromandel Lacquer from the Kangxi Period*

Christina Hagelskamp, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

*Scientific Analysis of a Coromandel Cabinet from the Victoria and Albert Museum, London*

Julie Chang, Fu Jen Catholic University, Taipei; Lucia Burgio, Victoria and Albert Museum, London

Discussant: Astrid Harth, City University of Hong Kong

## 18:00–18:45 Special Museum Visit

Exhibition "Might and Magnificence: Ceremonial Arms and Armour across Cultures,"

Indra and Harry Banga Gallery, City University of Hong Kong, 18/F, Lau Ming Wai Academic Building

## 19:00 Welcome Dinner

## Day 2 Saturday, 23 November

- 09:15–10:00 **The Taste for Coromandel Lacquer in France in the 17th and 18th Centuries. Trade, Reception, and Customs**  
Keynote by Stéphane Castelluccio, CNRS, Centre André Chastel, Paris
- 10:00–10:30 Coffee Break
- 10:30–12:00 **Panel V: Coromandel Screens as Global Artefacts**  
Chair: Phil Kwun-nam Chan, Art Museum, The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
*On the "Exoticness" of the Coromandel Lacquerware*  
Ching-Ling Wang, Rijksmuseum Amsterdam  
*Coastal Landscape and Scenes of Europeans on Coromandel Folding Screens*  
Rui Oliveira Lopes, Museu das Convergências, Porto  
*Differences and Commonalities: Links between 17th and 18th Century' Coromandel Export Lacquer Pieces and Luso-Asian Lacquers of the Previous Century*  
Ulrike Körber, IHA/FCSH//IN2PAST – Universidade Nova de Lisboa  
Discussant: Guanyu Wang, Art Museum, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- 12:00–13:30 Lunch break
- 13:30–14:30 **Panel VI: Coromandel Screens and Their Global Lives – Part One**  
Chair: Nicole Chiang, Hong Kong Palace Museum  
*Beyond the Closet: The Taste for Coromandel Lacquerware Furniture in Holland and England, ca. 1675–1700*  
Alexander Dencher, Rijksmuseum Amsterdam  
*"Sawed, Divided, Cut, Clift, and Split Asunder"? A Case Study of a European Chest of Drawers Decorated with Excerpts from a Coromandel Screen of Known Pictorial Model*  
Grace Chuang, Independent Scholar, Detroit  
*Reframing the West Lake in French Furniture and Interiors*  
Nicole Brugier, Ateliers Brugier, Paris
- 14:30–14:45 Short Coffee Break & Refreshment