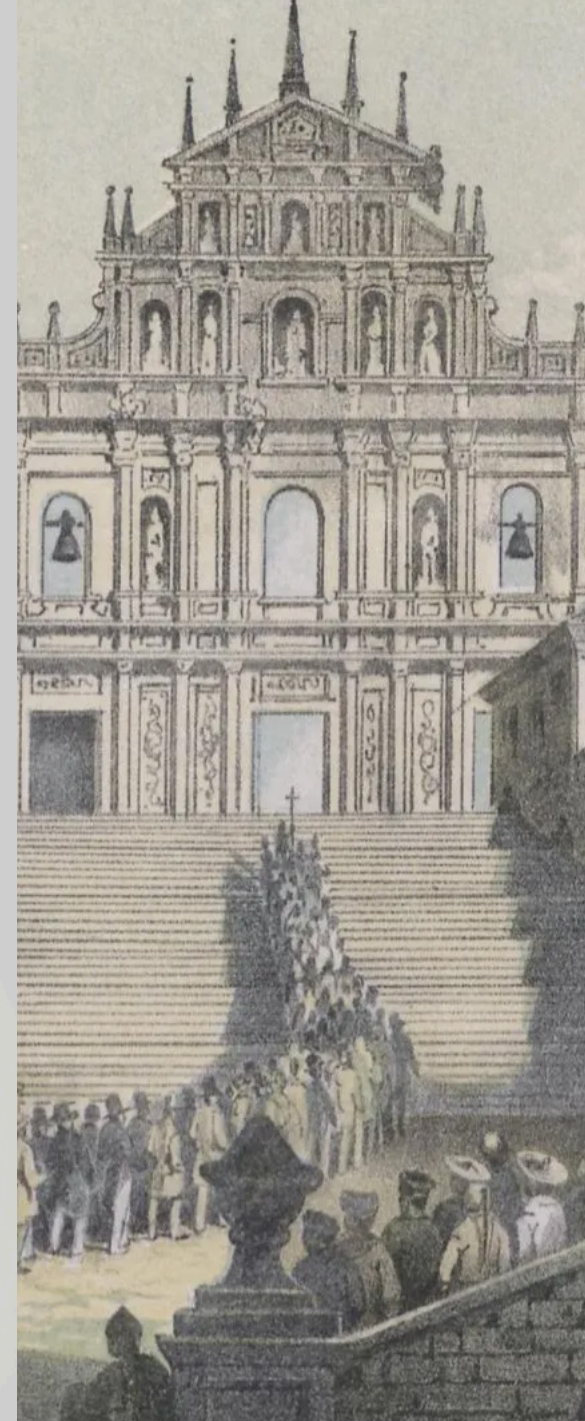


Faith and Forms

The Visual and Material Legacy of Christianity in China, from the 17th Century to Today



Saturday and Sunday, 22–23 March 2025

10am – 5pm

Ngee Ann Auditorium

Asian Civilisations Museum



Scan the QR code to register.

Registration required (with \$10 refundable deposit)

Christianity reached China as early as the seventh century, during the Tang dynasty. However, its presence was limited until the arrival of several Jesuit missions in the sixteenth century, which also brought Western science, mathematics, astronomy, cartography, and art to China.

In this two-day conference, scholars and experts from around the world come together to examine the complex relationship between Christianity and Chinese culture. Speakers will explore how Christian ideas, aesthetics, and religious iconography have been woven into the fabric of Chinese visual art, material culture, and architecture, from the seventeenth century to today.

This conference is held in conjunction with the special exhibition *Pagoda Odyssey 1915: From Shanghai to San Francisco* (till 1 June 2025).

22 March 2025 (Saturday)

9am

Registration

12.45pm

Lunch

10am

Opening Remarks

Clement Onn

Director

Asian Civilisations Museum

PANEL 2: THE IMPACT OF CHRISTIANITY ON CHINESE MATERIAL CULTURE

PANEL 1: CHINESE CHRISTIAN ART IN CONTEXT

10.15am

Were the European palaces a Buddhist paradise? Framing peacocks and territorial aesthetics in Qing imperial gardens

Dr Wang Lianming

Associate Professor, Department of Chinese and History
City University of Hong Kong

2.30pm

Faith, devotion, and business: Chinese textiles in Christian contexts in the early modern period

Dr Maria João Pacheco Ferreira

Curator

Museo de São Roque

10.45am

Madonna, bodhisattva, beauty: Furen University's Chinese Catholic paintings in modern China

Dr Patricia Yu

Assistant Professor, Department of Art History
Kenyon College, Ohio

3.00pm

The hybrid style of the facade of St. Paul's in Macau

Liu Heng

PhD Candidate

École pratique des hautes études,
Université Paris Sciences et Lettres
and Institute of East Asian Art History,
Heidelberg University

11.15am

Tea break

3.30pm

Tea break

11.45am

Missionaries as artists: Photography by American Passionists in China in the 1930s

Dr Wu Xiaoxin

Director of Research
Ricci Institute for Chinese-Western Cultural History, Boston College

4.00pm

Christian iconography on Ming and Qing porcelain: Religious influence and artistic hybridisation

Dr Guo Mo

Assistant Professor, University International College
Macau University of Science and Technology

12.15pm

Works by the Danish architect Johannes Prip-Møller

Dr Ho Puay-peng

Professor, Department of Architecture,
College of Design and Engineering
National University of Singapore

4.30pm

Chinese Christian cloisonné

Dr Manuel Parada López de Corselas

Associate Professor, Department of Art History
Universidad Complutense de Madrid

5.00pm

End of day one

23 March 2025 (Sunday)

PANEL 3: THE TUSHANWAN WORKSHOPS – THE CRADLE OF MODERN CHINESE ART

10am

Networks of beauty: Financing, producing, and exhibiting Chinese Catholic art in 19th-century Shanghai

Dr Antonio de Caro

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Art History
University of Zürich

PANEL 4: POPULAR AND CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN ART IN CHINA

2.15pm

Chinese Christian propaganda posters and the subversion of political art

Dr Daryl R. Ireland

Associate Director, Center for Global Christianity and Mission
School of Theology, Boston University

10.30am

Portraits of a community: Seeing Tushanwan through photography

Dr William Ma

Assistant Professor of Art History
College of Art & Design, Louisiana State University

2.45pm

Christian spring couplets in urbanising China

Dr Michel Chambon

Research Fellow
Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

11.00am

Tea break

3.15pm

Tea break

11.30am

A whimsical architectural archive: The historical significance of the Tushanwan pagodas

Dr Kevin Lam

Senior Curator, Chinese Art
Asian Civilisations Museum

3.45pm

Contemporary Catholic art in China

Sr M. Paola Yue

Hong Kong Diocesan Liturgy Commission

12.00pm

The outreach of the Tushanwan Workshops: The curious case of a scroll in Celje

Dr Helena Motos

Senior Research Associate
Institute for Philosophical and Religious Studies, Science and Research Centre Koper

4.15pm

Sinicising Catholic architecture in Republican China: More than a conflict of style

Dr Thomas Coomans de Brachène

Professor, Department of Architecture
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

12.30pm

Lunch

4.45pm

Closing Remarks

Dr Kevin Lam

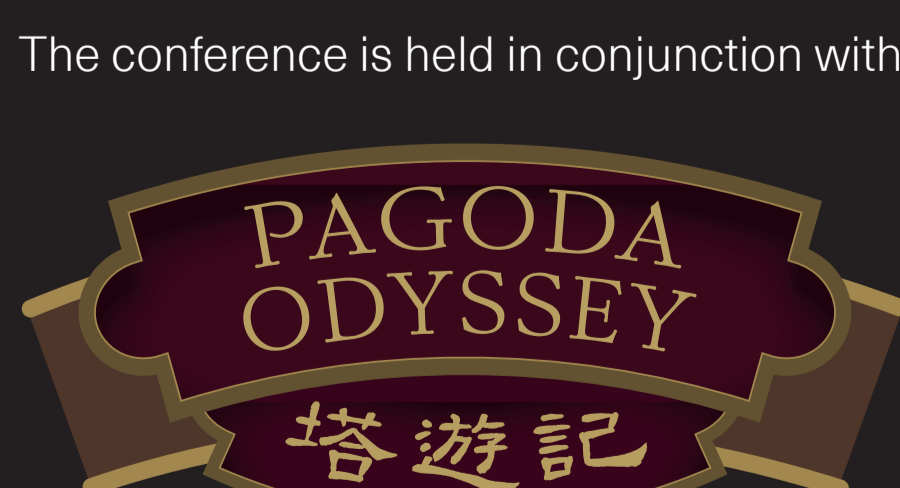
Senior Curator, Chinese Art
Asian Civilisations Museum

5.00pm

End of day two

The museum reserves the right to make changes and modifications to the programme without prior notice. The views and opinions expressed by speakers, facilitators, or artists in the talks, workshops, and performances do not represent the position of the Asian Civilisations Museum.

The conference is held in conjunction with



1915

From Shanghai
to San Francisco

Images (from left to right): *Portrait of Matteo Ricci* by the Tushanwan Painting Workshop, 1914. Ricci Institute for Chinese-Western Cultural History, Boston College. *Figure of Madonna and Child*. Asian Civilisations Museum, 2011-02085. *Jingzhou Pagoda*. 景州塔. Asian Civilisations Museum, 2023-00339. *Jesuit Convent, Macao*. Lithograph based on a sketch by Wilhelm Heine (1827–1885)