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Edited by Troy Segal

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On display during Asia Week: this Batō Kannon, a Buddhist deity, from Giuseppe Piva Japanese Art.

Eastward, Ho!

From Tibetan treasures to Japanese soups, New York seems awash in all things Asian this month. Here's a guide to some of the town's most sparkling fine and performing arts events. And should all that orientalism stimulate other tastes—some hot specialists in fare from the Far East, too.

At the heart of the action is **Asia Week New York** (AsiaWeekNewYork.com, Mar. 14-22), an annual celebration of fine and decorative art, held at various venues around town. It centers around an array of dealers—an unprecedented 47 this year—specializing in everything from 14th-century Tibetan *tangka* (paintings on cloth) to contemporary Korean ceramics. Some are NYC-based, others are out-of-town or out-of-country visitors. Auction houses, cultural institutions and museums participate, too, with special events and exhibits. One especially interesting collaboration: the **Japan Society Gallery's** *Points of Departure: Treasures of Japan From the Brooklyn Museum* (333 E. 47th St., btw First & Second aves., 212.832.1155, Mar. 7-Jun. 8), which cherry-picks precious objects, from folding screens to tomb figures, that represent the scope of Nipponese civilization and culture.

The participating Asia Week galleries are located along 57th Street and the Upper East Side, effectively turning Madison Ave. in the East 60s, 70s and 80s into a huge arts showroom. But for a display that's literally under one roof, check out the first annual **Asia Art Fair** (Bohemian National Hall, 321 E. 73rd St., btw First & Second aves., theasiaartfair.com, Mar. 14-18). Around 20 dealers—again, some local, some from as far away as Hawaii, England and Europe—offer their treasures in the hall's Renaissance Revival surroundings; the emphasis is on decorative arts, ranging from 12th century B.C. Iranian pottery to 20th-century Indian pendants.

Prefer something more modern? Then head Downtown, where several venues are hosting shows that feature lead-

ing lights of the current art scene across the Pacific Ocean.

Coo Gallery (1133 Broadway, btw E. 25th & E. 26th sts., 212.380.1149, Mar. 6-19) is showing 14 contemporary Japanese artists, experts in mediums that run the gamut from Western oils and pastels to Indian ink. Several Tokyo-based art galleries display homegrown talent at the **New City Art Fair** (HPGRP Gallery New York, 529 W. 20th St., btw 10th & 11th aves., 212.727-2491, Mar. 6-9). *A Floating Population*, *The New York Times* photographer Annie Ling's intimate portraits of the people and places in Manhattan's modern-day Chinatown, often shot from overhead angles, is on view at the **Museum of Chinese in America** (215 Centre St., btw Howard & Grand sts., 212.619.4785, thru Apr. 13). In *Outside the Lines: New Art From China*, **RH Contemporary Art** (437 W. 16th St., btw Ninth & 10th aves., 212.675.4200, thru Apr. 12) presents

the work of a dozen artists. Some embrace traditional techniques, such as wood-block printing and calligraphy, while others incorporate laser beams and stop-motion animation.

In other exhibits, the past informs the present. *Inspired by Dunhuang: Re-Creation in Contemporary Chinese Art*, held in the intimate gallery of the **China Institute** (125 E. 65th St., btw Lexington & Park aves., 212.744.8181, thru Jun. 8), explores how murals, sculptures and artifacts found in the caves of Dunhuang, a 2,000-year-old site of Buddhist art, have influenced today's painters, sculptors and calligraphers. One painter, Yu Hong, placed her piece "Questions for Heaven"



Pema Rinzin's "Abstract Enlightenment," at Joshua Liner Gallery: a new work using traditional Tibetan techniques.

(2010) on the ceiling of the gallery, a reference to the Dunhuang caverns' ceiling murals.

Born in Tibet, raised in India and currently residing in Brooklyn, artist Pema Rinzin has dedicated himself to teaching the traditional art methods of his birth land. Though he eschews overtly religious or classic themes in his own works (in fact, his influences include Western artists such as Klimt, Kandinsky and William Blake), he respects the Asian sense of color and composition. His delicately hued abstract creations, painted with hand-ground mineral pigments on wood, are on view in his show at **Joshua Liner Gallery** (540 W. 28th St., btw 10th & 11th aves., 212.244.7415, thru Mar. 29).