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# China Council Quarterly



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#31, October—December, 1988

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## ***THE EMPEROR AND HIS DRAGONS: TWO MAJOR CHINESE ART EXHIBITIONS IN SEATTLE***

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Seldom is a city graced with two major exhibitions of Chinese art at one time. But Seattle, in keeping with its interest and emphasis on the Pacific Rim, is currently host to some of the finest Chinese imperial art and Ming porcelains in the world. *Son of Heaven: Imperial Arts of China* runs through December 31 at the Seattle Center Flag Pavilion; Seattle Art Museum's *In Pursuit of the Dragon: Traditions and Transitions in Ming Ceramics* is on view until November 6.

The *Son of Heaven* exhibition is a spectacular collection of 225 objects brought together under the umbrella of imperial patronage. As a theme, imperial art is a difficult subject to pull together cohesively, for it covers a wide range of artwork in many media. It also implies imperial commission and/or use of such works, but in many cases the objects are peripheral to the emperor. They perhaps reflect the emperor's taste, since many were made in imperial workshops, but they might have been made for gifts or for use by extended royal families. This fact aside, the objects in the exhibition do reflect standards of imperial quality, and as such, they are important in "setting the stage" for the Son of Heaven.

Five separate galleries of the exhibition reflect five spheres that governed imperial life: the Altar (ritual life), the Outer Court (public life), the Temple (religious life), the Inner Court (personal life), and the Tomb (afterlife). Each of these is represented by artifacts relevant to that sphere. Consequently there is little chronological consis-

teny in the exhibition; the earliest objects are found in both the first and the last galleries.

The imperial age began in the third century BC with the First Emperor of the Qin Dynasty. The bronze ritual vessels in the Altar section predate that time, but their use, both by pre-imperial kings or by the emperor, is well documented. An intricate sixth century BC altar table, excavated in 1979 in Henan, is unique for its sculptural detail—a *tour de force* of the "lost-wax" bronze casting technique.

The Outer Court presents the emperor's public accoutrements — the dragon throne arranged as in a room for an imperial audience, decorative items, armor, and a variety of costumes, elaborately woven and embroidered. Most interesting is the complete set of mandarin squares, embroidered symbols for military and civilian rank that were worn on the back of the official's garment. On the other hand, the Inner Court features examples of what might be called "conspicuous consumption" on a personal level — exquisite ornament, utensils, and art objects.

As *Son of Heaven*, the emperor's duties consisted not only of conducting ceremonial ritual, but also of supporting the moral and educational activities of his realm. The Three Teachings — Buddhism, Daoism, and Confucianism — upheld in various combinations by different emperors, are represented in the Temple gallery. Here one can find Tang Dynasty (618-906) stone seated Buddhas with the beautiful flowing drapery and full sensuous forms so typical of

that "golden age" of Chinese art. Not only sculpture, but the painting and architecture of Buddhism, reached maturity at this time; a pagoda door frame, paintings, and rubbings of calligraphy give scope to this theme.

Comfort and security in the afterlife were of great importance to the Chinese, and burial customs reflected these concerns. Two famous and spectacular examples of Chinese burial objects are included in the last gallery of "Son of Heaven." Overshadowing the fine pottery tomb models of horses, grooms, and guardians, the life-size terracotta warriors of the Qin emperor (ca. 210 BC) gaze over the gallery in solemn splendor. The four warriors and two chariot horses only hint at the overwhelming presence of the army of 7000 that was discovered at Lishan in 1974. As protector of the eastern flank of the Qin emperor's tomb, the army guarded secrets one can only imagine in the still unexcavated tomb.

On a personal level, protection was also needed for the mortal body. Jade, called the "stone of heaven," was thought to have preservative properties and was used extensively in the tomb. The jade burial suit of Princess Dou Wan carried this belief to its ultimate manifestation. The snug suit, made in 12 pieces, contains 2,156 small thin plaques of jade fastened together with gold wire. Other suits have been found; one of lesser nobility was pieced together with silver wire and had no embellished tunic. The jade suit and especially the warriors in this last "tomb" gallery seem crowded into a somewhat claustrophobic and dark space, but it certainly provides the proper atmosphere for a display of tomb art!

The most glaring omission from this exhibition is the imperial porcelains of the Ming and Qing Dynasties (1368 — 1912). That is to be expected, since most of the Palace collections were moved to Taiwan in 1949 with the Nationalists. However, that omission is more than compensated for with a visit to *In Pursuit of the Dragon* at the Seattle Art Museum. These 90 ceramics are from the Idemitsu Museum in Tokyo, a corporate museum established in 1966 which is committed to collecting only the finest Chinese and Japanese ceramics and Near Eastern art.

Imperial porcelains comprise more than half of this exhibition. Made at imperial factories at Jingdezhen in Southeast China, the porcelains show the range of quality produced under different emperors. Factors in this variation included the state of the treasury, the emperor's interest, and the pressures of foreign and domestic trade. The finest cobalt blue painted wares of the 14th and 15th centuries are represented here with an exquisitely painted dragon jar of the mid 14th-century and four imperial pieces from the Xuande reign (1426-35). Two stem cups of the thinnest porcelains are amazing in part because they have survived intact for almost 600 years!

Porcelain made for trade — large celadon glazed jars and dishes for the Middle East, gold decorated jars or folk painted tea ceremony wares for Japan — stand in comparison to the imperial wares. What they lack in quality, they make up for in unusual shapes or designs and often spontaneous painting that creates a more approachable art. The great variety of ceramics in the exhibition, readable wall panels, and a color catalogue add up to a visual feast that is educational as well.

Shirley H. Ganse

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## SPECIAL EVENTS

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### *Fall Chinese Conversation Circle*

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Chinese language students are invited to join Lan Jin and other native speakers of Chinese in the Fall Circle. Lan Jin, the leader, a student from the People's Republic and a China trade consultant, will experiment with the use of dialogues adapted from a textbook by Taiwan Normal University. The Circle begins October 13 and runs until November 10. There will be five sessions, meeting from 5:30 to 7:00 PM at the China Council office, Portland State University, Smith Center M107. The cost is \$30 for members, \$40 for non-members.

Each participant will receive materials in pinyin, English and Chinese characters. There are three skill level groups. At least six months of Chinese language study is required.

For registration information, call Jane Larson at 464-4567.

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### **Son of Heaven: Imperial Arts of China** *Lecture Series*

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Sundays, September 25—October 16  
3:00—4:30 PM

Reed College, Vollum College Center  
3203 SE Woodstock

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Regional China Council.*  
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\$2 per lecture (\$3, general admission)

Information: 464-4567

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Whether or not you plan to visit the *Son of Heaven* show, you will enjoy the lecture series co-sponsored by Reed College this fall. The speakers present the context, historical and artistic, of the imperial system in China, and include the exhibition's American curator, Robert Thorp. All will show slides and use the exhibition's objects to illustrate their ideas.

The lecture schedule is:

September 25: **Palace Architecture and Gardens**, Ellen Johnston Laing

October 2: **From the First to the Last Emperor: The Story of Imperial Rule in China**, Linda Walton

October 9: **All Under Heaven: The Chinese Imperial Institution and the Arts**, Robert Thorp

October 16: **From the Yellow Springs to the Isles of the Immortals: Chinese Tombs, Funerary Goods, and Concepts of the Afterlife**, Frank L. Chance.

Robert L. Thorp is Professor of Art History and Archaeology at Washington University in St. Louis. Much of his work has dealt with recent archaeological excavations of Chinese tombs, and covers the architecture, ritual objects, and burial customs of the Shang and Qin dynasties.

Thorp worked with Yang Xiaoneng, the Chinese curator of *Son of Heaven*, to select the 225 objects in the exhibition, which came from 21 museums and institutions in China. Thorp is the author of the exhibition catalogue, which is an excellent introduction to imperial art and history and is illustrated with color photographs.

Ellen Laing is the Maude I. Kerns Professor of Oriental Art at the University of Oregon and the state's most distinguished Chinese art historian. University of California Press has just published her book, *The Winking Owl: Art in the People's Republic of China*, on the impact of politics on China's artists and their work.

Linda Walton is Associate Professor of History at Portland State University and specializes in the Song Dynasty. She has just returned from a sabbatical in Taiwan where she did research on Song educational academies.

Frank L. Chance is Assistant Professor of Art at Lewis & Clark College and a specialist in Japanese painting. He received his Ph.D. in Art History from the University of Washington.

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## *Son of Heaven Bus Tour*

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Saturday and Sunday, October 22—23

\$130, members; \$160, non-members

Register by October 10.

Possible Day Tour on November 12 or 13; information: 464-4567.

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A full weekend of Chinese art and history is planned by the China Council, with an evening viewing of *Son of Heaven: Imperial Arts of China* as the centerpiece. Ann Wetherell, Chinese art historian at Pacific University, and Douglas Lee, China historian at Linfield College, are leading this bus tour, with Shirley Ganse, Chinese art historian and expert on Chinese ceramics, briefing the group in Seattle.

Special features of the trip are a *dim sum* lunch at Ocean City Restaurant in Seattle's Chinatown, visit to the Ming Dynasty ceramics exhibition at the Seattle Art Museum, and a "debriefing" by Ganse at a Sunday brunch at the Mayflower Park Hotel.

The tour cost is based on double occupancy at the Mayflower Park, but single rooms are available for an additional \$30.

A day tour November 12 or 13 may be arranged, for a cost of about \$60 for members. Please call the Council immediately if you are interested: 464-4567.

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## *China Scholars' Circle*

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The first meeting of academics and others doing research in Chinese studies will be on October 19, at 7:30 PM, Portland State University, Smith Center M-107S, 1825 SW Broadway. We will be sharing current work—in-progress and collaboration with Chinese colleagues on research and exchange programs. Please call Jane Larson, 464-4567, for directions to the meeting room and to indicate your attendance.

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## *China Council Annual Meeting and Special Event*

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Plans are being made for the China Council's second annual meeting, to be held in early December. Yvonne Cornell, who is chairing the organizing committee, welcomes help with this event, which probably will include a buffet dinner and an activity in conjunction with the Peking Opera Troupe performances in Portland. A business meeting of the members will elect a slate of board members, followed by a brief meeting of the new board who will in

turn elect officers for the coming year. Festivities will follow the official gathering.

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## CHINA COUNCIL NEWS

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### *A Taste of China in Oregon*

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On July 20, the Northwest Regional China Council and the House of Louie Restaurant sponsored "A Taste of China in Oregon." The public reception and benefit banquet celebrated the publication of *China in Oregon: A Resource Directory* and the grand opening of the House of Louie Restaurant.

And a "A Taste of China" it was . . . summer breezes, colorful banners, street kiosks laden with Chinese arts and crafts, hosts and hostesses costumed in the rich garb of ancient Chinese dynasties, gave the event an air of exotic excitement. China Council members and the public rubbed shoulders with dignitaries, listened to speeches, and watched tai chi, while queues of guests sampled fragrant Chinese foods from the House of Louie. The outdoor activities culminated with a spectacular finale: firecrackers exploding in clouds of red paper as two lion dogs danced to insure a fortuitous future.

After ex-Governor Vic Atiyeh, owner Steven Louie, and China Council board member Elaine Tan cut the ribbon to officially open the House of Louie, 240 guests were feasted with an elegant, 11-course Chinese dinner. Wonderful dishes, some presented for the first time in Portland, followed one after another. The service was superbly organized and the feelings of celebration climaxed with a united demand for Chef J. Dan Fan to leave the hot woks in the kitchen and receive a round of applause.

A second banquet was held the next week in reponse to numerous requests. Guests welcomed Bud Clark, who took the podium not only as Mayor of Portland but as a long-standing member of the Northwest Regional China Council.

We wish to thank the many volunteers who worked so hard on this event, both China Council members and volunteers from the Chinese community, with special gratitude to the Louie family. Because of their enthusiasm, "A Taste of China in Oregon" was not only a social success, but a financial one as well. The China Council board will now consider establishing "A Taste of China" as an annual event.

Joan Frances

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### *Long Range Planning Meeting*

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Council members will recall that earlier this year the decision was made to organize a long range planning committee for the purpose of mapping a strategy for the future. Accordingly, a committee was organized under the chairmanship of Jay West to define the inclusive issues and prepare a plan to determine what the most important functions and programs of the council should be. The initial meeting in early June led to the formulation of a membership survey whose tabulated results provided the basis for a brainstorming session in late August.

With the technical assistance and guidance of Alan Zeiber, the 50 survey responses were analyzed indicating strong support for the continuance of such council programs as educational lectures, business conferences and seminars, cultural demonstrations, and the *China in Oregon* directory. Suggestions for program additions included the arrangement of meetings/briefings for members with interests in a particular business, academic, or other subject.

Our next task will be to concentrate on developing objectives and strategies to flesh out the ideas generated in the August brainstorming session.

John Metschan

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### *China Business Network To Be Organized*

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Myrla Magness of the Port of Portland has volunteered to organize a China business network for China Council members currently involved in China trade (the People's Republic, Hong Kong, and Taiwan). While the format has not been decided, the group would probably meet during the noon hour to exchange business experiences in the Chinese world.

Guest speakers would be invited to make presentations at regularly scheduled sessions, with notice through the newsletter. Please call Myrla if you wish to assist in developing this new program: 231-5459.

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### *China Careers Group to Form*

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With so many China Council members seeking to develop China-related careers in business, government, and education, and many other members who have extensive experience, we are beginning an informal gathering for students, job-hunters, and those exploring a new career in the China field. Liz Mansfield will organize the group, with meetings to begin in November, and is seeking volunteers to assist her.

This will provide an opportunity for members to exchange tips on possible jobs; learn from those in the field which kinds of academic and work experience are most helpful for different careers; and find out about activities of interest to those developing their China expertise. Guest speakers from law firms, banks, accounting firms, trading companies, government, and businesses with China ties will be invited to share their knowledge and perspectives.

If you wish to be invited to the first meeting, please contact the China Council office.

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### ***Summer Volunteers***

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The China Council has been blessed with a wealth of volunteers this summer who have helped with a variety of ongoing and special projects and given the organization their energy and ideas. Special thanks to Inge Beetem, Alice Dielschneider, Liz Mansfield, and Barbara McLeod. Their activities included preparing mailing lists on the computer, catching up on the clipping and filing of news articles on China, and marketing the resource directory, *China in Oregon*. Andrea Higgins is the designer of the "Son of Heaven" lecture series/bus tour flier, one of our more elegant productions. Ann Wetherell, art historian at Pacific University, conceived of and recruited speakers for the "Son" lecture series; Barbara McLeod and Anna Elliott have handled all the details of the bus tour.

Data from the Long Range Planning Survey was compiled and analyzed using a dBase program devised by Susan Winata, student of Alan Zeiber, who has been facilitating the long range planning process for the China Council.

The new newsletter editor is John Sinclair, a writing instructor and author of fiction. He is perhaps best known for his fireworks performances, having designed artistic displays for such occasions as the 20th anniversary of Lloyd Center. He has been a graphic designer and is responsible for the new masthead and newsletter title.

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### ***China Council T-Shirt***

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Making its debut at the "Taste of China in Oregon," our striking new China Council T-shirt has been selling fast. Coming in two colors (black or purple) and in several sizes (small, medium, large, extra large), the shirt features a bright green "flying horse" logo (designed by Cynthia Nawalinski from the Han dynasty original) and Chinese cursive calligraphy by Qian Zifen. The cost is \$10, and selection of sizes and colors is now limited. Thanks to Joan Frances for production and design planning and to Elaine Tan for creative production.

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### ***Volunteer Bookkeeper Needed***

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China Council Treasurer Judy Baxter needs the help of an experienced bookkeeper who can assist approximately two hours a week in the China Council office with "footing, ticking, tying, cross referencing, and making simple re-class entries." Please call Judy at PacifiCorp Credit, 222-7920, or Jane Larson at the China Council office, 464-4567.

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### ***Other Personnel Needs***

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A ten-hour/week China Council Assistant is needed this October to replace Johnny Lee, who will be returning to school soon. The Assistant maintains the membership system, assists with office management, works at events, and does general clerical work. Office experience is required. Good typing, English language, and computer skills are desired. The position may expand to 15-20 hours/week and include computer database input. Pay is \$4-\$5/hour, depending on skills and experience. Work-study-qualified students will receive special consideration. Call Jane Larson, 464-4567.

We are also seeking several volunteers to assist with setting up our new membership computer database. You will be trained to enter data on a dBase III+ program. The data entry phase of the project will run from mid-October to mid-December, and we would like a commitment of 20 hours over that period from each volunteer.

A volunteer to enter the text of the newsletter into our computer is also much needed. Please call Jane Larson, if you know WordPerfect and would like to donate ten hours/quarter to the China Council during office hours. Stories are ready for word processing by about the 20th of the month prior to publication and need to be entered as quickly as possible. You will be preparing the text for Ventura Publishing (desktop publishing software), which requires a simple set of codes.

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### ***Other Office Needs***

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The China Council is seeking donations of some office equipment: a postage scale that can handle up to five pounds; national zip code directory; paper cutter; pencil sharpener; and bulletin board. Please call the office, 464-4567, if you think you can help.

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### ***Thanks to Donors***

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New corporate members since June are: Whitman Advertising and Public Relations, City of Portland International Relations Office, Arthur Young and Company, Spears,

Lubersky et al, Oregon Historical Society, and Ragen, Tremaine et al.

Special thanks to Patrick Maveety who once again has renewed his membership as a Patron and to William J. Fronk and Rusty and Dan Goldy for their major contributions. Other individual donors this summer were: Eva Carr, Gloria Stevens, Eleanor Ray, Blake Ramsey, and Richard and Linda Ward.

The Rose E. Tucker Charitable Trust has made a grant of \$2,000 to the Council to establish a reserve fund. This has allowed us to open a savings account and gain a stability that the organization has long sought.

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## Peking Opera Performs in Portland

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The Peking Opera Company of Chongqing, China, will stage four performances in Portland December 2-4, bringing one of the most exciting forms of Chinese entertainment to Northwest audiences. Peking Opera bears little similarity to Western opera, for it combines song, drama, and dance with mime, martial arts, and acrobatics.

Peking Opera, the most famous of the regional operas in China, evolved from traditional theatrical forms at the Qing Dynasty court about 200 years ago, and is highly stylized in speech, song, movement, and costume. Plot is relatively unimportant, with an emphasis instead on song, dance, color, and skillful acting.

The stories of the Peking Opera come from classical novels about heroes or lovers, many dealing with the exploits of warriors and rebels, others with filial sons. It is a world of emperors, warlords, concubines, and clowns. In Portland, excerpts of five operas were chosen for their spectacle and appeal to Western audiences: "Three Scholars," "The Sword is a Gift from Bai Hua," "Stealing the Stored Silver" from the fairy tale called *The Story of the White Snake*, "Li Kui Visits His Mother," from the novel titled *Outlaws of the Marsh*, and "Havoc in Heaven," from the 16th century epic known as *Journey to the West*.

The China Council will be offering tickets for the Sunday night performance at a discount to members, in conjunction with the troupe's local promoter, Michael Davidson Presents. Call the China Council office at 464-4567 for ticket information. Regular tickets will be sold through the Box Office of the Portland Center for Performing Arts or at Ticketmaster outlets.

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## Major Asian Studies Centers Planned in Oregon

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While scholars, students, and others concerned with Asia can rejoice at the September opening of the University of Oregon's (U of O) new Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, we can also look forward to the possibility of a second resource, Portland State University's (PSU) North Pacific Applied Research Center, being presented to the Oregon State Board of Higher Education this fall.

The new U of O center, approved by the Board last July, will focus on the needs of the University's hundreds of Asian studies students by coordinating and promoting teaching and research on East Asia, Southeast Asia, and related regions. Backing up the center will be 38 faculty members in 16 disciplines who teach and do research on Asian and Pacific nations. The U of O initiated an Asian studies program back in 1947 and is the only state system school authorized to offer doctoral programs in foreign languages.

Adding to the resources of the new center is the already existing Murray Warner Oriental Art Museum, along with a sizable collection of Southeast Asian artifacts in the university's Natural History Museum. In addition, the U of O has two endowed chairs in the field (Oriental Art and Peace Studies) and some 60,000 volumes on China and Japan in its Knight Library.

John Moseley, vice president for research at the U of O, oversees the center. The director is Esther Jacobson, Chinese art historian, and the co-directors are Richard Steers, College of Business (in charge of external affairs) and William Ayers, Department of Anthropology (in charge of academic affairs).

While a long-term goal is to become a national resource center in Asian studies to the U.S. Department of Education, Moseley said the center will need very modest additional funding since its financing is already committed from existing budgets. Some additional funding will be sought at the next Oregon Legislative Session to expand the center's activities, and grants will also be sought for research support and curriculum development.

"Our emphasis will be on training students with a combination of Asian language skills, cultural sensitivity, and management and marketing capabilities so they can provide companies within Oregon with the necessary human resources to reach the markets of our Asian neighbors," Moseley said. Training for Asian-related careers in education, government, and international organizations will also be emphasized.

Jacobson stated that the center will work closely with the International Trade Institute in Portland on public outreach activities. She explains that the center will focus on "translation of cultures," that is, the transformation of traditional Asian societies into modern political and economic nations and on the problems that American audiences have in understanding Asian cultures.

Portland State University's (PSU) proposed North Pacific Applied Research Center, according to Mel Gurtov of International Studies, will serve as an international public service center, providing research, training, and outreach to promote Oregon's Pacific partnerships. The primary audience for the PSU center will be business and government personnel who deal with Asia and who need language and inter-cultural training.

The center's principal divisions will be the Research Programs in Applied Linguistics, East Asia, and Canada. Main functions for the linguistics program will be research, intercultural training, and scholarly exchange, incorporating the latest technology in expanding language learning and linguistics research. The East Asia program will develop PSU's academic offerings, in cooperation with other Oregon institutions, and involve students and faculty in research projects. Emphasizing business relations in light of the recent free trade agreement, the Canadian program will work closely with the recently formed Pacific Northwest Canadian Studies Consortium.

The State Board of Higher Education said both the U of O and PSU centers and other related programs, such as U of O's request for \$1.7 million to improve Asian and Pacific studies programs during 1989—1991, will have statewide coordination.

Still another Asian Studies Center is in the offing for Oregon. Warner Pacific College in Portland announced in September a plan for a Japanese educational organization, Amvic, to purchase up to 49 percent of the college's physical facilities and to create a center for Asian and Hispanic Studies. The agreement would provide, among other things, an opportunity for Japanese students to study at Warner Pacific's English Language Center.

Richard Koe and Jane Larson

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## BOOKS IN THE NEWS

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*THE CHINESE MIND GAME*, by Chin-ning Chu, AMC Publishing, Beaverton, OR, 1988. 261 pp., \$19.95.

Chin-ning Chu designed this book to educate and entertain Westerners using ancient Chinese war stories

based on two texts, *Art of War*, by Sun Tzu, and *Thirty-six Strategies* (author unknown). She has succeeded in her main purpose, to tell the stories which illuminate Asian/Chinese strategies in personal and business relationships, and explain the lessons for everyday life just as Chinese parents teach their children. To Asians, Chu declares, "Life is a grand game and they love to win through the art of maneuvering."

Born and educated in Taiwan, and now a local trade consultant of considerable personal and professional experience, Chin-ning Chu is eminently qualified to comment on what makes Asians tick. *The Chinese Mind Game*, her first book, accurately portrays Chinese, Japanese, and Koreans in a new light for Americans. Giving no culture any slack, Chu is at times openly critical of all cultures and their shortcomings, and she succinctly devises counter-strategies for Americans.

Despite inconsistent organization and poor choices for the romanization of proper Chinese names, *The Chinese Mind Game* is a superb reference for Westerners. Persons preparing to negotiate a teaching contract with Chinese universities or currently doing or planning to do business in Hong Kong, Taiwan or the People's Republic of China (PRC), will find this book a valuable resource. In fact, Westerners in general, from those intrigued by things Chinese to those volunteering to host a PRC student in their home, could learn something from *The Chinese Mind Game*. As the Chinese say, to learn one thing is to know three things!

Chu's book will be available through the Northwest China Council, with a discount to members.

Leslie Slocum

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## FILM REVIEW

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### *Hong Kong Film & Peking Opera Blues*

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One of the darlings of last February's Eleventh Portland International Film Festival was *Peking Opera Blues*. Its satirical self-awareness, lightning-quick edit, physical humor and lush imagery is characteristic of the film's director—the bright light in Hong Kong's New Wave cinema, 36 year old Tsui Hark. The film also represents the best of the colony's emerging world class filmmaking, an industry which until the late seventies was best known for its profusion of chum 'em out Kung Fu films, derisively known as "chopsocky flicks."

But Hark and other Hong Kong New Wave directors (among them Alan Fong, Patrick Tam, Ann Hui, Chang

Cheh and Ching Sui Tung) are now presenting works whose astonishing freshness, color and wit are a notable departure from the local formulas and Hollywood's often studied, polished-to-a-shine, megabudget movies. The new Hong Kong films revel in the medium (as anyone who saw Portland's showing of Ching's *A Chinese Ghost Story* can attest), displaying a good-natured, unapologetic celebration of heroism, fantasy, emotion, acrobatics, parody and slapstick—sometimes within a single scene!

Such effects are beginning to catch the admiring eye of the world film establishment; Hong Kong offerings are showing up with increasing frequency at international film festivals; *Film Comment's* June issue devoted its 23-page midsection to Hong Kong's moviemaking. In the meantime, Portland filmgoers will once again have the opportunity to take a breathless look at *Peking Opera Blues*. It will play November 11, at Cinema 21, 616 NW 21st; phone 223-4044.

John Sinclair

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## OREGON—CHINA RELATIONS

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### *Kaohsiung, Taiwan, Named as Portland Sister City*

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Another Asian city has joined the swelling ranks of Portland's Sister City program. On May 11, the City Council passed a resolution naming Kaohsiung, in southwest Taiwan, as our latest sibling. To mark the occasion, an official delegation of twelve persons, led by Commissioner Dick Bogle and including Commissioner Mike Lindberg, Patrick LaCrosse of the Portland Development Commission and Eng Lock Khoo of the Kaohsiung Sister City Association, will voyage to Kaohsiung where they will sign the official agreement on October 11. In addition to exploring further cultural and commercial exchanges between the two cities, and touring Kaohsiung's industries, commercial areas and university, the junket hopes to complete arrangements which will establish an annual dragon boat race for Portland's Rose Festival.

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### *Suzhou Sister City Association Forming Board of Directors*

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Portland's Suzhou Sister City Association hopes to complete its formulation of a board of directors to meet for the first time in late September or early October. At that time, an executive director will be proposed to the board for its approval.

On October 13-16, as part of a City of Portland goodwill tour which includes Kaohsiung, Taiwan and Sapporo, Japan, a delegation headed by City Commissioner Dick Bogle and City Auditor Barbara Clark will visit Suzhou, at which time Portland and Suzhou representatives will further their discussions of the Higher Education Exchange Program and finalize details for a Sister City Engineers exchange.

As always, the Suzhou Sister City Association is seeking new members, and would like to hear from interested persons. Contact David Wu, evenings, 249-8500.

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### *KGW, Fujian Television to Sign Sister Station Agreement*

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As a result of ongoing exchanges between Portland's KGW-TV and Fujian Television, KGW has been invited to participate in Fujian's "Friendly City T.V. Festival." Representatives from the Portland station are slated to arrive in China October 15, along with television stations from around the world, and contribute their talents to the festival. While in Fujian, KGW and Fujian Television will sign an official Sister Station Agreement, which will encourage cultural exchanges and the sharing of technical and operational information, news crews and programming.

Matt Shelley of KGW will lead a news crew throughout Fujian to film the culinary institute, traditional medicine college, new peasant-run export firms, and the Wuyi Mountains. The stories will air during the week of November 21 on the 5 PM news.

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## CHINA RESOURCES

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### *Oregon Network of Asian Pacific Women*

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On Tuesday, October 25, the Oregon Network of Asian Pacific Women will hold its first meeting at 7 PM at the Davis Business Center, 4370 NE Halsey. The Oregon Network is modeled after other networks in California, Hawaii, Colorado and Washington D.C. The organization seeks to increase the statewide visibility of Asian and Pacific women in business, the arts, and education; to develop their leadership; and to identify and address the social and economic issues that affect them. For further information, contact Carol Marr Vreeland, First Investment Advisor, at 281-6115.



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## ***New Access to U.S. Government Publications on China***

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Portland area residents have a new resource for books on China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore, with the recent opening of the United States Government Bookstore at 1305 SW First in downtown.

Among its 20,000 titles, the store has a selection of books about China, including background books useful to travelers and researchers on such topics as economics and politics.

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## **CHINA TOURS**

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### ***Taking Photographs in China: A Workshop***

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Judi Brandel, photography instructor at Grant High School, invites serious students of photography who wish to experience a unique photographic adventure, to tour China next summer, June 18 through July 10. The tour will leave Hong Kong and travel along the scenic South China coast to Xiamen and the "garden island" of Gulangyu, in Oregon's sister province of Fujian. After a stay in Beijing, with its many photographic wonders, the group will be based at the Minorities Institute in Kunming, known as the "City of Eternal Spring." Excursions will be made to the Stone Forest—said to rank with Guilin and the Yangtze Gorges as one of China's outstanding natural phenomena—and to Dali, a minorities area of exquisite natural beauty which has only recently been open to foreign visitors. Throughout its stay in China the group will experience open markets, street vendors, steaming woks, bicycles, parents and children, fishermen, rice fields, terraced hills, and 1,000 year old temples and villages, — memories, sights and sounds to record and treasure forever. Final details have yet to be worked out, but the cost of the tour will be approximately \$3,000, including round trip air fare from Portland, and all travel, food and accommodations inside Asia. Contact Karen Berg-Smith or David Christopher at Folkways Travel, 653-5882.

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# CALENDAR

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## OCTOBER

- 1—9      **FIRST EMPEROR'S WARRIORS EXHIBITION:** Miniature replicas of 3,000 Qin tomb figures; in Vancouver, BC.
- 10/1—12/31      **SON OF HEAVEN: IMPERIAL ARTS OF CHINA:** Exhibition of 225 Chinese art treasures at Seattle Center (Flag Plaza Pavilion). General Admission: Adults \$7.50, Seniors (62+) and Students \$6, Children (12 and under) \$3.50. Hours: Tuesday—Saturday, 9 AM—6 PM, Sunday, 11 AM—6 PM. Information: (206)442-9900.
- 10/1—11/6      **IN PURSUIT OF THE DRAGON: TRADITIONS AND TRANSITIONS IN MING CERAMICS:** Exhibition organized by the Seattle Art Museum from the Idemitsu Museum of Arts. Tuesday—Saturday, 9 AM—5 PM; Sunday, 12—5 PM, Seattle Art Museum, Volunteer Park. Cost: museum admission (free on Thursday); information: (206)625-8900.
- 2      \* **FROM THE FIRST TO THE LAST EMPEROR: THE STORY OF IMPERIAL RULE IN CHINA:** Slide lecture by Linda Walton, Associate Professor of History, Portland State University; part two in *Son of Heaven* series at Reed College, Vollum College Center; 3 PM—4:30 PM. Admission: \$2, China Council members; \$3, public. Information: 464-4567.
- 4—18      **MERCER ISLAND "SON OF HEAVEN" CHINESE ART LECTURE SERIES:** Chinese art historian Shirley Ganse gives slide lectures on the exhibition 10/4, 10/11/ and 10/18 at Mercer View Community Center, Mercer Island, WA; \$35 for seminar; registration information: (206)236-3545.
- 9      \* **ALL UNDER HEAVEN: THE CHINESE IMPERIAL INSTITUTION AND THE ARTS:** Slide lecture by Robert Thorp, American Curator of *Son of Heaven* exhibition; part three in *Son of Heaven* series at Reed College, Vollum College Center; 3 PM—4:30 PM. Admission: \$2, China Council members; \$3, public. Information: 464-4567.
- CHINESE FOOD FAIRE:** Sample food from 50 Chinese restaurants at event sponsored by Chinese American Citizens Alliance and Chinese Chamber of Commerce; Amato's, 1101 SE 12, 5 PM; \$25 per ticket. Information and reservations: Betty Jean Lee, 224-4082; Mel Huie, 220-1186; Fong Yee, 286-9703.
- 10/11—11/18      **NEWBORN IN CHINA:** Exhibit of layette items from Suzhou, China, in the Baby Room Gallery, Children's Museum, 3037 SW 2nd, Portland. Open Tuesday—Sunday; information: 248-4587.
- 10/13—11/10      \* **FALL CHINESE CONVERSATION CIRCLE:** Five-week program for Chinese language learners. Sponsored by Northwest Regional China Council, Thursdays, 5:30—7:00 PM, \$30 (members) and \$40(public). Portland State University, Smith Center M-107. Information: 464-4567.
- 16      \* **FROM THE YELLOW SPRINGS TO THE ISLES OF THE IMMORTALS: CHINESE TOMBS, FUNERARY GOODS, AND CONCEPTS OF THE AFTERLIFE:** Slide lecture by Frank L. Chance, Assistant Professor of Art, Lewis & Clark College; part four in *Son of Heaven* series at Reed College, Vollum College Center; 3 PM—4:30 PM. Admission: \$2, China Council members; \$3, public. Information: 464-4567.
- AUTUMN SPLENDOR: THE INFLUENCE OF ASIA ON FASHION:** Fashion show with traditional Asian fashions and contemporary styles showing Asian influence; also includes acupuncture clinic, Asian refreshments, post-show boutique. Sponsored by the Oregon College of Oriental Medicine; 3 PM, reception, 4—5:30 PM, fashion show. Princeton Building, 614 SW 11, 3rd floor; \$20; reservations: 253-3443.

- 19 \* **CHINA SCHOLARS' CIRCLE:** Informal meeting to share current research in Chinese studies by Oregon scholars; professors, teachers, students, and independent researchers welcome. 7:30 PM, Portland State University, Smith Center, Room M-107S. Call China Council for directions to meeting room: 464-4567.
- 21—22 **WESTERN CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF ASIAN STUDIES:** Panels on many topics, including Chinese literature and art, politics and history, presented by West Coast Asia scholars. In Seattle, Meany Tower Hotel, 4507 Brooklyn Ave. NE; registration fee: \$15; \$10, student, retired, unemployed. Information: (206)543-4800/4964 (Frank F. Conlon, Program Chair).
- 22—23 \* **SEATTLE BUS TOUR TO SON OF HEAVEN EXHIBITION:** Weekend bus tour led by Chinese art and history specialists to *Son of Heaven* exhibition and Seattle Art Museum Ming ceramics show; cost of \$130 (members) or \$160 (non-members) includes exhibition admissions, two meals, double occupancy room at Mayflower Park Hotel. Information: 464-4567.

## NOVEMBER

- 3—6 **THE GIRL FROM HUNAN:** Chinese film (People's Republic) on the consequences of an arranged marriage in the early 1900's, 1988. Northwest Film and Video Center, Oregon Art Institute, 1219 SW Park; nightly, 7 and 8:45 PM and 2 PM, Saturday and Sunday. Information: 221-1156.
- 11 **PEKING OPERA BLUES:** Hong Kong film plays at Cinema 21, 616 NW 21st, Portland; information: 223-4044.
- 21 **KGW-TV SERIES ON FUJIAN PROVINCE:** News and feature stories on sister province show this week on the 5 PM news. Information: Matt Shelley, 226-5111.

## DECEMBER

- 2—4 **THE PEKING OPERA:** Peking Opera Company of Chongqing performs Chinese opera, with singing, dance, juggling, sword throwing, mime, martial arts, and acrobatics. Sponsored by Michael Davidson Presents; at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall; Friday, 8 PM; Saturday, 2 and 8 PM; Sunday, 7 PM. Ticket prices range from \$17.50 to \$35, with youth discounts of \$5. China Council members receive special discounted group tickets on Sunday (call 464-4567 for information). General ticket information: 248-4496 or Ticketmaster outlets.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

Northwest Regional China Council Members receive invitations to China Council events, a subscription to the quarterly newsletter, and discounts on admission fees and books.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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I would like to volunteer to help the China Council with:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Assisting at events  
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 \_\_\_\_\_ Recruiting members  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Research

*Membership Category* - Please check the category you wish:

Individual	—\$20	Major Donor	—\$200-\$500
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THE NORTHWEST REGIONAL COUNCIL is formed to deepen public understanding of China's history, culture, and contemporary affairs (in the People's Republic, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and among Chinese-Americans). Our events are held all over Oregon and include exhibitions, lectures, conferences, tours, and business seminars. The Northwest China Council is an independent non-profit corporation and one of twelve regional China councils in the U.S. affiliated with The Asia Society.

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