## EAAA

The Third Conference of the European Association for Asian Art and Archaeology

13–17 September 2023
Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana





## Book of Programme and Abstracts



08:30-17:00	Registration (Entrance hall, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana)					
8:30–10:00	Presentation of Skušek Collection and Restoration Project (Slovene Ethnographic Museum)					
09:00-11:00	Lecture Room 15	Lecture Room 2	Lecture Room 4	Lecture Room 13		
	Panel 13	Panel 14	Panel 15	Panel 16		
	CANCELLED	Collecting and Displaying Buddhist Art in European Museums before 1940	Viewing the Kabuki Theatre	Intermedial Dialogues		
11:00-11:30	Coffee and Tea Break					
11:30–13:30	Panel 17	Panel 18	Panel 19	Panel 20		
	Bronze Objects in Early Medieval East Asia	Asian Art in the West: Collecting Activities and Their Influences	War and Unrest in Artistic Expressions	Painting and Calligraphy in Imperial China		
13:30–15:00	Lunch Break					
15:00–16:30	Panel 21	Panel 22	Panel 23	Panel 24		
7	Inscriptions on Chinese Lacquer Artefacts	Asian Art in the West: Exploring Provenance	The Essence of a Nation? Korean Objects in the Context of Diplomatic Relations and their Symbolic Values	New Forms of Calligraphy in Contemporary China		
16:30–17:00	Coffee and Tea Break					
17:00–18:00	Keynote Speech: Professor Emeritus Craig Clunas (Lecture room 15, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana; Streaming: Lecture room 2)					
18:30–22:00	Welcome Reception with musical event: 'Musicking' (City Museum of Ljubljana)					

## Gilt Bronze Belt Fittings of the Middle Kofun Period in Japan

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This paper will focus on a certain type of gilt bronze belt fitting that appeared in Japan in the latter half of the 5th century: with hookless buckles and belt plaques "*Kua* (跨)" embellished with motifs of divine beasts in relief.

A type of belt plaque of the same design is found in both the Japanese archipelago and the Korean peninsula during the same period. But the buckle structures of those from the Japanese archipelago and those from the Korean peninsula are completely different. There are two possible explanations for this observation: the bronze belt fittings of this type in Japan originated either from the Korean Three Kingdoms, or from the Chinese Southern and Northern Dynasties. This paper proposes that the latter is more probable and argues that the bronze belt *Kua* plaques of this specific design and their craft are an archaised style based on Han archetypes.

Notably, these bronze belt fittings of this type are one of the few indications of interaction between the Chinese *Liu-Song* (劉宋) Dynasty and the Japanese *Wo* (倭) polity. And the fact that these metal belt fittings of Kofun Japan and the Korean Three Kingdoms possess *Kua* belt plaques of the same decorative design but different buckle structures may indicate that some were products

of the Southern Dynasty Liu-Song and others were their imitations. This aspect is important in considering the spread of Chinese cultural relics in ancient East Asia.