

Harn Museum of Art Displays Miniature Works of Asian Art in “Show Me the Mini”

GAINESVILLE, FL, March 2, 2017— The Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida is marking the five-year anniversary of the opening of the David A. Cofrin Asian Art Wing with a new exhibition titled *Show Me the Mini*. The exhibition will feature more than 100 miniature works from the Harn’s Asian art collection dating from the Neolithic period to the present. *Show Me the Mini* will be on view from March 21, 2017 to Nov. 25, 2018.

The art of miniatures takes many forms and exists across time and cultures. The exhibition will highlight the exquisite skills required to create these masterful works of art while addressing issues of size, scale, modeling, ownership, production, and historical and contemporary functions of miniatures. The art on view includes bronzes, ceramics, glass, jades, lacquers, paintings, portraits and woodblock prints with the majority of the objects measuring no larger than the human hand. Artists are from China, Japan, Korea, India and Southeast Asia with the earliest works created from China’s Longshan Culture (3,000-1,900 BCE) to video and sculptural works by contemporary living artists.

“We are pleased to celebrate the five-year mark of the opening of the David A. Cofrin Asian Art Wing with this exhibition,” said Harn Cofrin Curator of Asian Art Jason Steuber. “The purpose of building the wing was to provide a larger space in order to delve deeper into our Asian art collections and create unique exhibitions such as this one. The art of miniatures is often an overlooked theme in Asian art and the exhibition presents a rare opportunity to remind viewers that art comes in all shapes and sizes.” Themes addressed in the exhibition include: perspective and scale, the five senses, collecting, multiples, religion, cricket culture, and games. A family guide and mini activity pack accompany the exhibition and offer ways for families to connect with the art on view.

Show Me the Mini is generously supported by the Quinn Family Charitable Foundation with additional funding by the Cofrin Curator of Asian Art Endowment. Special thanks to exhibition partners Sequential Artists Workshop (SAW) and UF’s Nanoscience Institute for Medical and Engineering Technology (NIMET).

Admission to the museum is free. For more information, call 352-392-9826 or visit www.harn.ufl.edu.

Images are available upon request.

Programs

The Harn is offering a number of programs providing an opportunity for visitors to engage in conversation and learn more about the works on view. All programs are free and open to the public unless noted otherwise.

Gallery Talk

The Art of Smallness: Looking at Asian Miniatures

Sunday, April 2, 3 p.m.

Allysa B. Peyton, Assistant Curator of Asian Art

Monumental works of art often overshadow small ones on display in museums. Yet, what makes a mini so exciting? Peyton will explore how issues of size, scale, modeling, ownership, production, and historical and contemporary functions of miniatures shaped the exhibition *Show Me the Mini*.

Family Day: Honey I Shrunk the Art

Saturday, April 8, 1 – 4 p.m.

Families with children will discover a miniature world of art on an itsy-bitsy tour of the Asian art exhibition *Show Me the Mini*. Together, they will then make miniature paintings of a treasured place for a tiny person to enjoy. This program is ideal for families with children ages 5 – 11, but all ages are welcome.

Museum Nights: Mini Mania

Thursday, May 11, 6 – 9 p.m.

Visitors will experience petite performances of music and dance, tiny tours and a talk by Cofrin Curator of Asian Art Jason Steuber about the exhibition *Show Me the Mini*. UF and community partners working with miniatures in a range of fields – from science to design – will discuss their work. Art activities include making some tiny art to take home.

Summer Art Camp: Mini Mania, Massive Fun

Monday, July 31 – Friday, August 4, 1 - 4 p.m.

Fee: \$150 (\$130 Harn member)

Children ages 7 to 11 will explore size and scale in art in the *Show Me the Mini* exhibition. They will then create works of art from mini to massive. This afternoon camp is one in a series of multiple morning and afternoon camps offered throughout the summer.

Tours

Public tours are available every Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Reservations are not necessary. Groups tours of 10 or more persons should be scheduled by contacting tours@harn.ufl.edu or 352.392.9826 x2112.

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