

toes,” drawing attention to little known wall paintings from the Xi Xia period. The 24 disasters from the Lotus Sutra are here unusually combined with the depiction of Manjuśri (rather than Avalokiteśvara), who sits in the centre.

Imre Hamar (ELTE), the main organiser of the conference, in his paper “Buddhavatamsaka sutra and Khotan,” stressed that in his opinion this sutra may originate from Khotan. Some Buddhist texts were compiled in Sanskrit in Central Asia; so the language alone is no evidence for the origin of the sutra. In the “Book of Zambasta” it was even stressed that in Khotan they do not translate, but preserve Sanskrit texts.

On 14th June the papers about the art were presented. Lilla Russell-Smith (Museum für Asiatische Kunst, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin) spoke about “Regional Styles in Kucha, Turfan and Dunhuang in the 8th–13th Centuries: New Observations,” reporting on the results of a research trip in April 2017. In addition to drawing attention to some new discoveries, for example in Toyuq, the paper also emphasised the importance of conservation to preserve the wall paintings for further research. In the Berlin museum, about 10 conservators are now preparing wall paintings for the move to the centre, to the Humboldt Forum, and it is hoped that joint conservation projects with China can be organised. Beatrix Mecsi (ELTE) spoke about “Khotan, Dunhuang and Goryeo Buddhist Paintings,” drawing attention to similarities and differences in the iconography, e.g. Amitabha welcoming the diseased. In Korea such paintings are called 西域 (“from the

Western Regions”) and have been little researched, except for a publication by Kim Haewon in 2012. In Korea Mahasthamaprapta is interestingly soon replaced by Ksitigarbha in the triad originally consisting of Amitabha and his two accompanying Bodhisattvas.

Meng Sihui (Palace Museum, Beijing) in her paper compared the “Buddha Statues Parade” in the Western Regions and the paintings of “the Tejaprabha Buddha Leads the Planet Deities Parade” – and cited texts about Buddhist processions comparing the depiction of ritual carriages “decorated like a great hall,” and also examined the importance of 北斗 (the Big Dipper) “carrying the Emperor” and a similar role of the Buddha Tejaprabha. Judit Bagi (Oriental Collection, Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest) spoke about “Faces of Dizang (Ksitigarbha) along the Silk Road,” investigating how the Ten Kings ritual survives into modern-day China. She described the results of her fieldwork to Yunnan where the Mulian Festival lasts three days, with many comparisons that can be drawn to rituals known from Dunhuang texts and wall paintings.

A lively discussion closed the conference: new topics for future conferences and ideas for various collaborations were mentioned. The guests from China were then taken to see the famous reading room at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA), where, for example, Aurel Stein’s archive, books and photographic collections are kept.

– Lilla Russell-Smith
Berlin

ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE SILK ROAD, A SYMPOSIUM ON OCTOBER 11-13, 2017, AT PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY, PORTLAND, OR, USA

This very stimulating symposium was organized by Prof. Junghee Lee of the School of Art and Design at Portland State University, with support from a number of other departments and organizations. While the original plan had been that the program be even broader in its scope, due to visa and other travel problems, some potential participants had to cancel. Nonetheless, the range of topics was considerable, and there were interesting exchanges in each session, spearheaded by invited discussants from regional universities who were not otherwise presenting papers. The decision to have “keynote” talks at the beginning, in the middle, and at the end provided very useful contextualization for the more narrowly focused papers,

listed here with the titles as indicated in the printed program (there were some changes as actually presented). Video of the keynotes by Waugh and Canepa may be viewed at: <<https://vimeo.com/243199828>>. It is possible that a conference volume with a selection of the papers will be published.

Keynote 1: Searching for the ‘Silk Road’: How will we know that we have found it?

Daniel C. Waugh, University of Washington, Seattle

Traces of Shamanic Rituals and Beliefs found in Pre-Historic Sites in Xinjiang

Xijuan Zhou, Willamette University

- Study of Antenna-Style Daggers in Northeast Asia from the Perspective of Interregional Interaction
Sunmi Park, Northeast Asian History Foundation
- Understanding Cross-Cultural Interaction: the Silk Route and Kushan Material Culture in Kashmir, India
Mohamad Ajmal Shah, University of Kashmir
- The Border Pattern Dividing the Earthly World and the Heavenly World in Koguryo Tomb Paintings: Merlon Pattern and Lattice Patterns of Gandhara and Dunhuang
Young-pil Kwon, The Korean National University of Arts
- Buried Towers: The Screen Wall and Artistic Innovation on China's Frontier
Heather Clydesdale, Santa Clara University
- The Underground Silk Road – Pictorial Affinities in 5th-century Cave Temples and Tombs
Bonnie Cheng, Oberlin College
- Life Like the Buddha: Narrative Illustrations on the Shi Jun Sarcophagus (580 CE)
Jin Xu, Vassar College
- Images of the Crowned Buddha along the Silk Road: Iconography and Ideology
Rebecca Twist, Pacific University
- Archaeology of Uddiyana with Reference to Guru Padmasambhava
Abdul Rauf Kakepoto, Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur-Sindh, Pakistan
- Data Report and Identification of The So-called Nestorian Crosses
Andrea Jian Chen, University of Hong Kong
- The Prehistoric Petroglyphs of the Silk Route: Shatial to Khunjerab Pass
Naela Aamir, College of Art & Design, University of the Punjab, Lahore
- Revisiting Early Chinese Silks along the Silk Road and Revealing Nomadic Contribution, 200 BCE–600 CE.
Angela Sheng, McMaster University, Canada
- Along the Silk Road's Thread: Textile as a Universal Medium of Eurasian Kinship
Mariachiara Gasparini, independent scholar
- Paintings in the Red Hall of Varakhsha and Tiraz of Buhtegin (Shroud of St. Josse)
Aleksandr Naymark, Hofstra University
- Keynote II: The 'Iconic' Silk Road: Asset or Liability?*
Annette Juliano, Rutgers University, Newark, NJ
- Slide show: The Turkey You May Not Have Seen*
Daniel C. Waugh
- Medieval Riverine Landscapes of Passage and Journey: Border, Riparian and Steppe in the Oxus Borderland
Manu P. Sobti, The University of Queensland, Australia
- Revealing the Baekje's Contribution on the Eastern Silk Road Story
Insook Lee, Seoul Baekje Museum
- An Archaeological Observation on the Seaports for Porcelain Shipping in the Jin Dynasty: Internal and External
Jing Wu, Research Centre for Chinese Frontier Archaeology, Jilin University, China
- Keynote III: The Lord of the Seven Climes: Iran at the Center of Eurasian Exchange*
Matthew P. Canepa, University of Minnesota

– Daniel C. Waugh
Seattle