

DIASPORIC ASIAN ART NETWORK (DAAN)

Contact information: for all inquiries, please email the co-organizers listed below:

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ABOUT DAAN:

Diasporic Asian Art Network (DAAN) is a newly created, informal network of scholars, curators, arts writers, and graduate students interested in Asian American art and art history. Its inaugural meeting was held during the College Art Association convention in Los Angeles, California on Friday, February 27, 2009. Annual meetings will be held at CAA, in recognition of that organization's pivotal role as a national and international venue for professionals in the arts.

The purpose of this proposed network is to share ideas and information, both about our own projects and about the work of others in the United States and abroad, toward advancing new research, critical writing, and curatorial efforts involving modern and contemporary Asian American/Asian diasporic art and visual culture.

The "Diasporic Asian Art Network" (DAAN) hopes to encourage a broader transnational and trans-diasporic as well as domestic orientation. Whereas 'Asian American' does refer specifically to the American, read U.S. experience, the network situates within the Asian diaspora, bringing the discussion to a 'global' level that includes Asian American art. In our view, the American situation can only be invigorated and enriched by working with other Asian diasporas.

There has already been preliminary interest expressed by one group, the **Asian Australian Studies Research Network** (<http://www.asianaustrianstudies.org/ARC2008/index.html>), in hosting a website where members of this network can potentially post a link. One component of their research is a comparative study of developments in Asian American and Asian Australian visual art since the 1990s.

While this network and its activities might take many forms, our initial plan is to create a website, hosted by New York University's Asian/Pacific/American Institute, that will act as a public forum for information exchange. The postings can include links to individual and institutional web pages, announcements of exhibitions and new publications, listings of conferences and calls for papers, jobs, grants, and other opportunities of relevance to DAAN members.

This is an especially exciting moment to consider such an initiative, in light of the proliferation of exhibitions, books, dissertations, and articles on Asian American and Asian diasporic art and art history in the past decade alone. The recent staging of a major art historical survey exhibition at the de Young Museum in San Francisco, and the concurrent publication of the edited volume, *Asian American Art: A History, 1850-1970* (Stanford University Press, 2008), are important results of foundational research now being done on this subject. Likewise the breadth of new critical writing on Asian American art reflects a host of interdisciplinary approaches that are reshaping discourse in this field.

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HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN DAAN:

If you are interested in joining the network, or in contributing time to help in organizing and building DAAN, ***please email Alexandra Chang and Margo Machida at the addresses listed above.*** Your help is vital to this network's growth, as it is wholly supported through the efforts of its volunteers. Provide complete contact information with a mailing address, institutional affiliation, email, phone/cell phone, and website address if applicable.

Note: For those who attended the February 27, 2009 meeting, please forward your current contact information and any news about your projects/research that should be included in the Web site.

We are also looking for individuals to serve as **Regional Representatives** for their areas in the continental United States and Hawai'i, as well as in Canada. The charge to each regional representative is to regularly gather and to post information about current exhibitions, publications, regional conferences, panels, and other events in her/his area related to Asian American art and art history.

We are pleased to announce that **Laura Kina**, Director of Asian American Studies and Associate Professor of Art, Media, and Design at DePaul University will be serving as the Midwest Representative for DAAN.

Special thanks to **Mary-Ann Milford**, Art History, Mills College, and **Ayako Yoshida**, independent curator, who served on the Ad Hoc Organizing Committee for CAA 2009.