



**PRESS RELEASE**

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**The 33rd Annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Festival  
on Saturday May 12, 2012, from 11am - 6pm  
at the Archway @ Dumbo, Brooklyn, NYC**

Organized by the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans since 1979, this annual festival is the longest running and largest event celebrating Pan Asian heritage on the east coast. This year's festival centers on the theme of the journey that Asian Pacific American ancestors have taken to bring us to this moment. It celebrates not only the value of families, but also our heritage, which make us proud to be Asian Pacific Americans.

More than 20,000 visitors are expected for an impressive line-up of performances, fun activities for children and adults alike, and savory samples of Asian cuisine. Asian American Arts Centre will proudly present six of our Asian traditional folk artists for the event.

**ASIAN AMERICAN ARTS CENTRE FOLK ART TABLES**

**ROSE SIGAL-IBSEN: calligrapher**

Rose Sigal-Ibsen has practiced calligraphy for many years and won critical acclaim for her work. Born in Romania and migrating from Israel to the US, she worked as an enamelist after studying at FIT. In 1979 she began her study of Sumi ink at the KoHo School of Sumi-e in NY and later Chinese brushwork at the Zhejiang Academy in China. She has won Awards of Excellence from the Kampo Cultural Center and from the Manhattan Arts International magazine. She has exhibited widely, for example, in China at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, in Bucharest at the Roumanian Cultural Foundation, and in the US at the Steinhardt Conservatory and the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington DC.

**YE XUN, Dough figurine master artist**

Dough modeling is a traditional Chinese handicraft that has continued to develop for over 700 years. Mr. Ye Xun, born in Zhejiang, has combined the qualities of both his master teachers, the poetic sensibility of Master Zhao Kou Ming with the realistic representation of color and manner of Master Lang Shao An (his grandfather). His figures appear life-like with a sense of vitality in the scenes and characters of his work. His work include the famous mythological characters such as the Monkey King from "Journey to the West", the Eight Immortals and the Goddess of Mercy. He has also won numerous awards for his designs including First Place in the Zhejiang Provincial Competition for Best Design.

**JAMPA YOU DEN: Tibetan Jewelry Designer**

Jampa Youden grew up in one of the many nomadic communities in Tibet, where the land is vast (larger than Texas and California together), streams are crystal clear, where there are herds of sheep, birds, meadows of fragrant flowers and medicinal plants, surrounded by snow capped mountains. Taking his cue from traditional works he has brought this kind of design back in new materials, sizes and forms, sometimes using beads from Arizona and other places.

**MING LIANG LU: master paper cutter of portraits**

Ming Liang Lu began studying calligraphy with his father at the age of five. He also studied carving, sculpture and engraving under the tutelage of renowned Shanghai artists such as Zheng Chi Lai, Shu Xun Long and Wu Su Wei. In 1981 he was commissioned to replicate a miniature scale model of Qing Pu Dai Guan Garden with 796 stone sculptures, some as small as a grain of rice. His sculptures were exhibited in the US from 1980 to 1985 and received wide acclaim. A creation from this period, "Dawn", was enlarged into a public art piece over five meters tall and is now permanently installed in the Shanghai Hua Xin Garden. He been in the US for nineteen years and continues to receive awards at various art shows here.

**ANDREW WANG: Textiles & Jewellery**

Andrew Wang developed a passion for art while growing up in China, which led to his making paintings in the 1990s. Recently, in his spare time, after becoming a medical doctor, he continued his interest in the arts by initiating and developing a cross-country network in China consisting of local artists, ethnographic experts and museum professionals to facilitate the process of traditional ethnic art preservation, particularly traditional tribal textiles. The objectives of the networking include helping artists from different ethnic groups preserve their artistic heritage in the face of modern transformations, and increasing international communications through various artistic activities worldwide. Andrew has served as an international volunteer advisor for several local museums located in Southwestern China to facilitate international collaborations with museums in the West. He will be presenting many traditional art forms here, as he does in several other annual events in the US.

**KAREN K. AHN: Korean Macreme Artist**

Karen K. Ahn learned Korean Knotting or Macreme as a young adult from a master Knotting folk artist named Kim Hae Soon in 1981. When Karen was attending college she met her as part of the Institute for Traditional Art and had many private lessons with her. Korean Knotting is different from Chinese Macreme as well as different from Celtic knotting, being a highly complex form of the art.

**Shao Hua Yu: Master Grass Animal Artist**

Shao Hua Yu learned to make animals by weaving palm leaves together from his father who learned it from his mother. He taught him how to make frogs and snakes, which he found very easy. By traveling around China and seeing other masters he gathered many skills and expanded his repertoire. After immigrating to New York in 2000, he found he could continue his art by starting demonstration tables on Mott St, in Soho and in Time Square.

This is an ideal event for families. The music, art and performances will delight both old and young alike. See you there!

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DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 12TH, 2011  
LOCATION: ARCHWAY @ Dumbo  
Between Water Street & Anchorage Place  
Admission: FREE!  
Website: [A/P/A Heritage Festival](http://A/P/A Heritage Festival)