

## GREGORY LEVINE

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Gregory Levine is Associate Professor of Japanese art history in the Department of History of Art, University of California, Berkeley. He is also a member of the Group in Buddhist Studies and Group in Asian Studies at Berkeley. He is the recipient of a Fulbright Hayes Fellowship, the President's Research Fellowship in the Humanities (University of California), and other awards, most recently, a Townsend Center for the Humanities Initiative Grant (U.C. Berkeley) in support of his book project *Buddha Heads: Buddhist Sculptural Fragments in Devotional and Modern Imaginations*. His book, *Daitokuji: The Visual Cultures of a Zen Monastery* (University of Washington Press, 2003), was a finalist in 2007 for the Charles Rufus Morey Prize ("for an especially distinguished book in art history") awarded by the College Art Association. He was co-curator with Yukio Lippit of the exhibition *Awakenings: Zen Figure Paintings from Medieval Japan* (Japan Society, 2007) and catalogue co-editor and contributor. He is also co-editor with Lippit of the forthcoming volume, *Re-Presenting Emptiness: Essays on Zen and Art* (Princeton University Press). His current writing projects include essays on the modern creation of "Zen art" and "Silenced by Aesthetics? A Poetics of Art History and Ecology." An essay on André Malraux and Afghan Buddhist sculpture will appear in the *Blackwell Companion to Asian Art*. At UC Berkeley he has taught graduate seminars on topics such as Daitokuji; Kan'ei-era visual culture; portraiture in Japan; *Shōhekiga*; art, forgery, and authenticity; iconoclasm; fragments in art history; and historiography/methodology in Japanese art history. In fall 2008 he led the Judith Stronach Graduate Travel Seminar in Art History in Japan. His undergraduate teaching includes surveys of the art and architecture of Japan, Buddhist art and architecture, and painting and print cultures in Japan as well as seminars on Zen painting and calligraphy, Buddhist images in the modern/contemporary world, and the collecting of Japanese art in the West. A recent Freshman Seminar focused on the antiquities trade, art market, and art history.

### Education

- 1997 Doctorate in Japanese Art History. Princeton University. Dissertation: "Jukōin: Art, Architecture, and Mortuary Culture at a Japanese Zen Buddhist Temple."
- 1992-95 Foreign Research Student, Department of Art History and Aesthetics, Kyoto University.
- 1991-92 Foreign Research Student, Department of Art History, The University of Tokyo.
- 1990 M.A. in Art and Archaeology. Princeton University.
- 1985 B.A. Oberlin College, Oberlin Ohio.

### Publications

#### Books, Catalogues

- Gregory Levine, Yukio Lippit, eds. *Awakenings: Zen Figure Paintings from Medieval Japan* (New York: Japan Society; Yale University Press, 2007).
  - "Patriarchs Heading West: An Introduction," with Yukio Lippit, *Awakenings*, 16-21.
  - "Two (or More) Truths: Reconsidering *Zen Art* in the West," *Awakenings*, 52-63.
  - "Pilgrims Offering Treasures to Luohan," "The Transformation of a Luohan," "Luohan in a Bamboo Grove Receiving Offerings," catalogue entry, *Awakenings*, 138-143.
  - "Awakenings in the West: A Bibliography on Chan/Seon/Zen Buddhism and Art," with Yukio Lippit, *Awakenings*, 202-207.
- Daitokuji: The Visual Cultures of a Zen Monastery* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2005).

### Articles

- “Rakan in America: Travels of the Daitokuji 500 Luohan,” in *Moving Objects: Time, Space, and Context*, ed. Tokyo National Research Institute of Cultural Properties (Tokyo: Heibonsha, 2004), 96-109.
- “Switching Sites and Identities: The Founder’s Statue at the Japanese Zen Buddhist Temple Kōrin’in.” *The Art Bulletin* Vol. LXXXIII (March 2001): 72-104.

### Book Reviews

- Andrew Watsky, *Chikubushima: Deploying the Sacred Arts in Momoyama Japan*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2003. *Monumenta Nipponica*, 59, no. 3 (Autumn, 2004), 421-24.
- Joseph Parker, *Zen Buddhist Landscape Arts of Early Muromachi Japan (1336-1573)* Albany: State University of New York Press, 1999. *Journal of Asian Studies* 58/4 (Nov. 1999): 1150-1153.

### Work in Progress

- “Malraux’s Buddha Heads,” in *Blackwell Companion to Asian Art*, ed. Deborah Hutton, Rebecca Brown (London: Blackwell Publishing, forthcoming 2010).
- Gregory Levine, Yukio Lippit, eds. *Re-Presenting Emptiness: Essays on Zen and Art* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, forthcoming 2010).
- Gregory Levine, “On the Look and Logos of Zen Art.”  
Translation, with Monica Bethe of Aki Yamakawa, “*Denpōe* and the Tōfukuji “Five Dharma-Transmission Robes.”  
Translation of Shōji Yamada, “Do Zen Rock Gardens Represent Emptiness?”
- Long Strange Journey: Essays on Zen and Art* (book).
- “From Ambivalence to Infatuation: Zen art before ‘Nothingness.’”  
“On the Look and Logos of Zen Art.”  
“Brush Performances and the Itinerant Zen Master.”  
“The Faltering Brush: Death Verses (*Yuige*) in the Chan/Zen Tradition.”  
“Where’s the Zen? Kano Paintings at Jūkōin and their Archi-pictorial Regime.”  
“Looking (askance) at the Zen Garden of Ryōanji.”  
“What’s So Funny: The Inverted Rhetoric of Zen comics.”
- “Silenced by Aesthetics? A Conjectural Poetics of Art History and Ecology” (article).
- Buddha Heads: Buddhist Sculptural Fragments in Devotional and Modern Imaginations* (book).

### Invited Lectures

- “From Ambivalence to Infatuation: Zen art before ‘Nothingness.’” Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, April 3, 2009.
- “On the Look and Logos of Zen Art.” Harvard University Reishauer Japan Forum. Harvard University. Feb. 13, 2009.
- “On the Look and Logos of Zen Art;” “Silenced by Aesthetics? A Poetics of Art History and Ecology.” Visual and Material Perspectives on East Asia Workshop, University of Chicago. Jan. 28-31, 2009.
- “Looking (Askance) at Ryōanji.” Department of Art and Art History. Carleton College. Nov. 14, 2008.
- “Where’s the Zen? Art and Architecture at the Zen Monastery Daitokuji.” Society for Asian Art. Arts of Asia Lecture Series. Nov. 7, 2008.
- “Digital Eitoku: What’s a Contextualist Art Historian to Do?” Lecture for Asian Studies Group, Kyoto. Held on site at Jūkōin, Daitokuji. June 5, 2008.

- “Silenced by Aesthetics? A Poetics of Art History and Ecology.” “Interaction between Humanity and Nature: The Environmental Thoughts Seminar,” Japanese National Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN), Kyoto, Japan. May 24, 2008.
- “Pictures Around Practice? Kano Eitoku’s Paintings at Jukōin.” Institute for Buddhist Studies, Berkeley. April 29, 2008.
- “From Plant to Place: *Matcha*, *Chanoyu*, and Tea Culture.” For the panel, “World in a Teacup: Tracing the Global Journey of Tea.” Phoebe Hearst Museum of Anthropology, U.C. Berkeley. March 1, 2008.
- “Un-flattening Kano Eitoku.” Paper for the symposium, “Topics in the Current Study of Kano Eitoku,” Kyoto National Museum, Japan, Nov. 3, 2007.
- “What’s Zen Got to Do with It?” For the exhibition Talk, “Zen Art in Historical and Comparative Context.” Japan Society, New York, May 15, 2007.
- “What Sort of Harvest? From Slides to Digital in Image-Heavy Teaching.” Paper for the session, “Rotating the Crops: From Old Tech to New Tech.” Teaching, Learning & Technology Symposium: Cultivating Communities in Our Learning Landscapes,” UC Berkeley, May 2, 2007.
- “Daitokuji In Sight/In Situ.” For Society for the Study of Japanese Religion Roundtable, “Recent Site-Based Studies in Japanese Religions: Putting History back into Art History.” Association for Asian Studies annual meeting, Boston, March 24, 2007.
- “Faking the Masters: Calligraphy Connoisseurship in 17th-c. Kyoto,” Society for Asian Art, Arts of Asia Lecture Series, Jewish Community Center of San Francisco, January 26, 2007.
- “Unexpected Images: Art and Architecture at Daitokuji,” Asian Art Museum, SF. June 4, 2006.
- “Nefarious Heads: Abbot Portraits at the Zen Monastery Daitokuji.” Presented for the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Franklin D. Murphy Lectures in Art History. Kress Department of Art History, University of Kansas, April 25, 2005.
- “Faking the Masters: Calligraphy Connoisseurship & Forgery in Early 17<sup>th</sup>-Century Kyoto.” M. Victor Leventritt Symposium, *The Art of Japanese Calligraphy*. Arthur M. Sackler Museum, Harvard University. February 12, 2005.
- “Amerika ni okeru rakan: Daitokuji gohyaku rakanzu no tabi,” Department of Aesthetics and Art History, Kyoto University. August 28, 2003.
- “Seeing the Buddha: Thoughts on Fieldwork in Japanese Buddhist Art History.” Group in Asian Studies Colloquium series, U.C. Berkeley, Nov. 2001.
- “Digging in the Storehouse: ‘Excavating’ Daitokuji’s ‘Art Collection.’” Stanford University East Asian Studies colloquium series, “Looking at Premodern Japan,” April, 2001.
- “A Walk Through Daitokuji: The Architecture and Icons of a Zen Monastery.” Michele Berton Memorial Lecture in Japanese Art. Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Dec. 6, 1998.

### Conference Presentations, Papers, Colloquia

- “The Faltering Brush: *Yuige* (Death Verses) and The Zen Master’s Demise.” For “Buddhists at the End of Life.” UC Santa Cruz, May 1-3, 2009.
- “On Return: Re-encountering Kano Eitoku’s (1543-1590) *Flowers and Birds of the Four Seasons* at Jukōin.” For “Friends by a Brushwood Gate: A Symposium in Honor of Professor Yoshiaki Shimizu.” Princeton University, April 19, 2009.
- “From Ambivalence to Infatuation: Early Attitudes toward Zen Art in the West.” For “Inventing Asia: American perceptions and influences around 1900.” Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. April 3, 2009.
- “What’s So Funny: The Inverted Rhetoric of Zen Cartoons.” For the panel “Affection and Rejection? The Inflections of Zen in Modern and Contemporary Popular Culture.” Association for Asian Studies annual meeting, Chicago, March 27, 2008.

- “Malraux’s Buddha Heads.” Paper for the session, “Transplants: ‘Foreign’ Objects in Visual Culture.” Sponsored by the Visual Culture Caucus. College Art Association meeting, Dallas, Feb. 22, 2008.
- “What a Long Strange Journey: Zen Art in the Modern Imagination.” For the panel, “Patterns of Inattention: Taxonomic and Lexical Forces in Japanese Art History.” Association for Asian Studies annual meeting, Boston, March 24, 2007.
- “Daitokuji In Sight/In Situ.” For Society for the Study of Japanese Religion Roundtable, “Recent Site-Based Studies in Japanese Religions: Putting History back into Art History.” Association for Asian Studies annual meeting, Boston, March 24, 2007.
- “Buddha Sells, or Not: Thoughts on Buddha Bodies in Consumer Culture.” For the panel, “Buddhism Sells: Buddhist Concepts and Images in American Advertising.” *Speaking for the Buddha: Buddhism and the Media*, UC, Berkeley. Feb. 9, 2005.
- “*Shini’e* and other Posthumous Portrait Bodies.” Panel Discussion for *Actors in Death: Commemorative Prints from the World of Kabuki*. Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities. Feb. 4, 2004.
- “Rakan in America: Travels of the Daitokuji *Five Hundred Luohan*.” For the panel, “Objects in Pieces: Fragmentation and Appreciation of Japanese Artifacts,” Association for Asian Studies, New York, March 28, 2003. Also presented for the conference, “Moving Images: Space, Time, and Context,” Tokyo National Research Center for Cultural Properties, Tokyo, Dec. 5, 2002.
- “Digging in the Storehouse: ‘Excavating’ Daitokuji’s ‘Art Collection.’” For “Collecting ‘Art’ in pre-Meiji Japan.” Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, May 1, 2000.
- “Annual Airings at Kyoto’s Zen Monasteries: Forming, Viewing, and Recording Temporary Temple Ensembles in the Edo Period.” For the panel, “The Constructed Environment in Japan: Designing the Ensemble,” Association for Asian Studies annual meeting, March 13, 1999.
- “Switching Sites, Switching Identities: The Founder’s Statue at the Zen Temple Kōrin’in.” For the panel, “Monks and Nuns as Artists, Patrons, and Subjects in Buddhist Art,” College Art Association, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 12, 1999.
- “Whose Head is This Anyway?: Zen Portraits at Daitokuji.” Center for Japanese Studies Spring Conference, “Material Japan: Things (*Mono*) are Culture.” University of California, Berkeley, May, 1998.

#### **Curatorial, Editorial, Conference Organization, etc.**

- Executive Committee, University of California Multi-Campus Research Group (MRG), “Japanese Arts and Globalizations” (PI Miriam Wattles UCSB). 2008-2012.
- Co-organizer (with Andrew Watsky, Gennifer Weisenfeld), “Friends by a Brushwood Gate: A Symposium in Honor of Professor Yoshiaki Shimizu.” Princeton University, April 17-19, 2009.
- Co-editor (with Yukio Lippit), *Re-presenting Emptiness: Essays on Zen and Art* (Princeton: Princeton University Press in association with the Tang Center for East Asian Art, Princeton University, expected 2009).
- Co-curator (with Yukio Lippit) and exhibition catalogue co-editor, *Awakenings: Zen Figure Painting in Medieval Japan*. Japan Society, New York, Centennial Anniversary Exhibition (March 28-June 17, 2007).
- Co-organizer (with Yukio Lippit), “Re-presenting Emptiness: A Symposium on Zen and Art in Medieval Japan,” P. Y. and Kinmay W. Tang Center at Princeton University, April 14-15, 2007. (In conjunction with *Awakenings*, Japan Society.)

### **Grants, Fellowships, Awards**

- 2007 Finalist (1 of 3), Charles Rufus Morey Prize (“for an especially distinguished book in art history”), College Art Association (for *Daitokuji: The Visual Cultures of a Zen Monastery*.)
- 2006 Townsend Center for the Humanities Initiative Grant (U.C. Berkeley) in support of research for *Buddha Heads: Buddhist Sculptural Fragments in Devotional and Modern Imaginations*.
- 2005 Humanities Research Fellowship (U.C. Berkeley).
- 2003 Advanced Research and Publication Grant, Metropolitan Center for Far Eastern Art Studies.
- 2003 History of Art Undergraduate Association, U.C. Berkeley. Award for Outstanding Contribution to Art Historical Education.
- 2001-2002 President’s Research Fellowship in the Humanities (University of California); Career Development Grant (U.C. Berkeley); Regents’ Junior Faculty Research Fellowship (U.C. Berkeley; Summer 2002).
- 2001 National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, D.C., Summer Stipend.
- 2000 Research Travel Grant (for the US) and Short-term Travel Grant to Japan from the Northeast Asian Council, The Association for Asian Studies.
- 1996-1997 Dissertation Write-Up Fellowship, ACLS/SSRC.
- 1991-1993 United States Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Training Grant for Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad. Dissertation Research Fellowship, The Metropolitan Center for Far Eastern Art Studies, Kyoto.
- 1987-1992 Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities; Graduate Fellowship, Princeton.

### **Recent University/Departmental Service**

- Chair (2008-09), History of Art Graduate Admissions Committee (committee member 2006, 2007).
- History of Art, Summer Chair, 2008 (July), 2005 (July).
- U.C., Berkeley, Ad hoc Tenure Review Committee, 2008, 2005.
- Selection Committee, Initiative Fellowships (2008-2009), Townsend Center for the Humanities, U.C. Berkeley.
- U.C. Berkeley Committee on Student Conduct (2008-2009).
- Reviewer for Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2008.
- Faculty Presenter, “Digital, Divide, Dilemma,” presentation for the UC Berkeley H.A.R.T. steering committee, on digital technology for the arts and humanities, Nov. 16, 2007.
- U.C. Berkeley Teaching, Learning & Technology Symposium Steering Committee (2006).
- Electronic Resource Committee, Department of History of Art (2007, 2008)
- QE Chair, Examiner, History of Art (ongoing)
- Undergraduate Advisor, History of Art (2006-)

### **Completed Dissertations**

- Joseph T. Sorensen. “Optical Allusions: Screens, Painting, and Poetry in Heian and Kamakura Japan.” Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, UC Berkeley. Spring 2005. (Outside reader).
- Juhn Y. Ahn. “Malady of Meditation: A Prolegomenon to the Study of Illness and Zen.” Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, UC Berkeley. Fall 2007. (Outside reader).
- Sean McPherson. “A Tradition of Change: A History of Chita Dashimatsuri, 1600-2005.” Architectural History, College of Environmental Design, UC Berkeley. Fall 2007. (Outside reader).

**Dissertation Supervisor/Reader**

Soo H. Kim, “Sen no Rikyū and His Tea Utensils: Products of Social Alchemy” (supervisor; currently writing).

Sharon Yamamoto, “Visual Culture at the Hōkyōji Imperial Convent” (supervisor; currently writing).

Namiko Kunimoto, “Portraits of the Sun: Violence and Nationhood in the Art of the Gutai Group” (co-supervisor with Professor Anne Wagner; conducting research in Japan).

Wen-shing Chou, “Maps of Mediation: Tibetan Buddhist Wall Paintings in the Remaking of Qing-Dynasty Wutaishan” (second reader; conducting research).

Sung Lim Kim, “Art and Culture of 19<sup>th</sup>-c. Korean Middle Class Artists: Jo Huiryong and his Circle” (second reader; currently writing).

Jessica Lee Patterson, “An Analysis of Chinese Motifs in Thai Mural Paintings of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Reign, 1824-1851” (second reader; conducting research).

Orna Tsultem, “Urga: Nomadic City of the Mongols” (second reader; currently writing).

Barrett Heusch, “Imagawa Ryōshun and the Way of Poetry.” (EALC; outside reader; currently writing).

Hanako Asakura, “Landscapes of the Self: Painterly Aesthetics in Modern Japanese Literature.” (EALC; outside reader; research abroad).

**Graduate Students (pre-qualifying exams)**

Carl Gellert (Japanese archaeology, Kofun Period)

Kristopher Kersey (Heian-Kamakura period narrative painting)

**Professional Affiliations and Extramural Service**

College Art Association

Association for Asian Studies

Japan Art History Forum

External Tenure Promotion Cases.

Book, article manuscript reviewer: University of Washington Press; University of Hawai‘i Press; McGraw-Hill (Japanese art sections of proposed survey textbooks); *The Art Bulletin*; *Artibus Asiae*.

Reviewer (Art History), NEH Summer Stipend Program, 2003.

**Fieldwork, Archival Work (partial list)**

Historiographical Institute, The University of Tokyo

National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo

Tokyo National Museum

Tokyo National Museum Archive

Kyoto Prefectural Library and Archive

Kyoto National Museum

Kyoto University Museum

Houghton Library, Harvard University

Daitokuji, Myōshinji, Tōfukuji, Kenchōji, Engakuji, and various sacred sites, Japan.

Tianlongshan and Buddhist sites, Hebei, Henan, Shanxi, China.