



# THE FREER HOUSE

71 East Ferry, Detroit Michigan, 48202 | 313-664-2500

## SPRING 2014

*An International Landmark... A World Class Lecture Series*



*Scenes from the life of the Emperor Ming Huang and his favorite concubine, Yang Kuei-fei (partial view) Kano Mitsunobu, (Japanese, ca. 1565-1608) Momoyama period. Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution, F1901.20-21. Gift of Charles Lang Freer.*

## *In Attendance to the Realm: the Kano School of Painters in 17<sup>th</sup> Century Japan*

**SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2:00 PM**

**by Yukio Lippit, PhD**

Professor, History of Art and Architecture, Harvard University

### LECTURE

at the Detroit Institute of Arts,  
Marvin & Betty Danto Lecture Hall, 2:00 pm  
Free with DIA admission

### RECEPTION & TOURS

at The Freer House, 3:30 - 5:00 pm  
\$10 per person  
\$5 students, AIAF and Freer House members  
Pay at the door

For more information contact Rose Foster at  
313-664-2509 or [rmfoster@wayne.edu](mailto:rmfoster@wayne.edu)

Dr. Yukio Lippit's lecture explores the remarkable 450 year history of the Kano house of painters, the official school of painting to Japan's warlords, the Tokugawa Shogunate, in Edo-period Japan (1615-1868). The Kano school's origins, artistic developments and leading painters are explored in relation to trends in Japan's cultural and political history.

In the late 19th century, the members of the Kano school played a crucial role in introducing Detroit's Charles Lang Freer, industrialist and art collector, to the history and nature of the Japanese pictorial arts. The influence of the Kano school of painters in Freer's pioneering collection of Japanese art will be specially highlighted.

*See reverse for lecture & reception details*

**Program Host: David R. Weinberg PhD**



Japan America Society  
of Michigan and Southwestern Ontario



The  
**Americana  
Foundation**

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**THE FREER HOUSE**

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**mpsi**

**WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY**



# In Attendance to the Realm: the Kano School of Painters in 17<sup>th</sup> Century Japan

## About the Speaker:



**Yukio Lippit, PhD**, is Professor of History of Art and Architecture at Harvard University and a member of the Charles Lang Freer House, National Board of Advisors. Dr. Lippit has published widely on Japanese painting and architecture.

His book, *Painting of the Realm: the Kano House of Painters in 17th Century Japan*, (University of Washington Press, 2012), recently received major awards and recognition from the Association for Asian Studies and the College Art Association. Dr. Lippit's acclaimed 2012 exhibition, *Colorful Realm: Japanese Bird-and-Flower Painting by Ito Jakuchu (1716-1800)*, attracted the seventh highest daily attendance in the history of the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.



*Reeds and Geese*, Kano Tsunenobu (1636-1713), Edo, 17th Century. One of a pair of six-panel folding screens. Detroit Institute of Arts, Founders Society Purchase, Acquisition Fund, 80.43.1 -2.

**2:00 PM LECTURE  
at the DIA**  
5200 Woodward Ave.  
Detroit, MI, 48202

**3:30-5:00 PM  
RECEPTION & TOURS  
at the  
FREER HOUSE**  
Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute  
(pay at the door)  
71 East Ferry St.  
Detroit, MI, 48202  
(one block north of the DIA)

Parking is behind the Freer House.  
Travel south on John R to access  
WSU Lot #35. Pay \$5 parking fee  
at reception registration.

<http://mpsi.wayne.edu/freer/index.php>

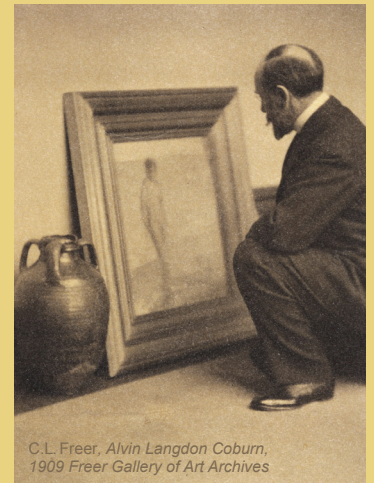
**The Freer House** (1892) is ranked as one of the most important historic buildings in Michigan. Its fine architectural detail and rich cultural history are both locally and internationally significant. The Freer House is also recognized for its role in child and family development as the home of the renowned Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute since 1920.



photo by ALEXANDER VERTIKOFF

The Freer House membership organization works to preserve this landmark through public events, tours and fundraising for restoration. Recent accomplishments include the reproduction of original paintings for the main hall and parlor and a new historically appropriate roof. Current goals include the courtyard garden and the Whistler Gallery restoration projects.

**Charles Lang Freer** (1854-1919) made his fortune in railroad freight car manufacturing in Detroit. His remarkable shingle style residence on East Ferry Ave. was designed in 1892 by Wilson Eyre, Jr. Freer's home contained one of the world's greatest collections of Asian and American art, including works by Whistler and the Peacock Room. Freer bequeathed his collection to the Smithsonian where it is housed today at the Freer Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.



C.L. Freer, Alvin Langdon Coburn, 1909 Freer Gallery of Art Archives

**For information contact:** William Colburn, Director, at [william.colburn@wayne.edu](mailto:william.colburn@wayne.edu).