

Congress holds an exhibition of the artwork of Dr. Yuhua Wang



At an exhibition hall in the Capitol, members of Congress praise the contributions and accomplishments of Professor Yuhua Wang during an official reception in her honor.

On November 13 at the Capitol in Washington DC, several members of Congress and the Congressional Arts Caucus held an exhibition of the artwork of Professor Yuhua Wang and an official reception honoring her. The exhibition hall was crowded with people, including numerous officials and dignitaries. Many members of Congress, council members of the District of Columbia, ambassadors, and diplomats came to appreciate the exhibits on display. They praised the beauty of the artwork as being beyond imagination and praised Dr. Wang for bringing the light of beautiful art into the Capitol. Even after the exhibition ended, there were still members of Congress who came to the exhibition hoping to view Dr. Wang's works of art.

Professor Wang personally attended the official reception in her honor. The hall was filled to capacity, making it a very grand occasion

cluded Corrine Brown, Danny Davis, Eliot L. Engel, Adam Schiff, Neil Abercrombie, Chaka Fattah, David Wu, and others.

Dr. Yuhua Wang was born in China and permanently resides in the United States. She is currently a research professor at the College of Liberal Arts at Auburn University in the United States. She has been highly commended by the president and vice president of Auburn University and by the dean of the college where she is a visiting professor for her achievements in the study of colors. Her faux coral and cobblestones that she hand-sculpted (from light-weight materials) and painted have been praised in the Congressional Record as being "treasures of the world." The Congressional Record also states, "In the history of Chinese art, her lotus flower paintings are unsurpassed..."

Professor Stephen Farthing, who is a world-renowned authoritative

still attends to her daily life and is unwilling to have others do her work. All who meet her sense her goodness, compassion, friendliness, elegance, and noble character. Seeing her creations is like seeing her in person. In either case, one is left with a feeling of great comfort, ease, and peace.

On July 30, 2008, the United States Congressional Record affirmed that "...Dr. Yuhua Wang has been recognized as a great artist and sculptor." It was also stated in that Congressional Record that she takes great pleasure in helping others, is a selfless person whose moral character is noble, and has made great contributions to the development of cultural exchange between the East and West. Additionally, Denis G. Antoine, Ph.D., Dean of the Ambassadors of the Western Hemisphere, wrote in a congratulatory letter that the color forms created by Professor Wang are pioneering and without comparison, and her paintings unleash blissful emotions. He also wrote that Professor Wang's works make people not only think of but also perceive a world of colors that brings a calming a peaceful impact on the mind.

The exhibition displayed four of Professor Wang's hand-sculpted faux coral painted in oil colors. Those works are entitled *Glamour in Pink*, *Arching Branches*, *Parched Antiquity*, and *Cinnabar Nectar*. Another exhibit is called *Seventy-Seven Stones*, which are exquisitely hand-sculpted and painted faux cobblestones. Additionally, there will be displayed ten ink-wash paintings called *Spiritual Air*, *The Appeal of Lotuses*, *Two Chicks Under the Wool Tree*, *Ink Alone Excels Nature*, *Auspicious Atmosphere at the Lotus Pond*, *Light, Elegant Ink*; *Three Lovely Flowers*, *Yuhua*, *Lotus Fragrance Blown by the Wind*, *Golden Lotuses*, and *A Bit of Charming Autumn Scenery*. The three oil paintings on exhibition were *Flying Object in the Night*, *Heavenly World*, and *Exuberant Life*. All of these exhibits were authentic, and most of them were chosen by International Arts Publishing to be included in the book *World's Highest-Level Color Paintings and Ink-Wash Paintings—The Art of Professor Yuhua Wang*.

At the exhibition, new reporters asked Professor Yuhua Wang which one of the works of art that she created is her favorite. Her answer, which she gave without hesitation, has profound meaning. She said, "Whichever work of art is everyone's favorite is my favorite work of art!"

United States Senator Dianne Feinstein stated in her certificate of commendation that Professor Wang's work in the oriental arts across the nation has distinguished her as a leader in the field. In a congratulatory letter, United States Congressman Edward Royce praised Dr. Wang for her outstanding accomplishments in education and art, especially in the areas of lotus flower paintings and sculpting.

Professor Wang's hand-sculpted faux coral on which she painted oil colors are even more genuine-looking and more beautiful in form and color than real coral found at the bottom of the sea or on islands. Touching these works of art is like touching real coral that has been immersed and eroded in water. One cannot help but admire Dr. Wang for creating coral with a texture of having been immersed and eroded in water for thousands of years. This texture is difficult to find even with real coral at the bottom of the sea. The forms and colors of her faux coral reveal a quality of elegance and good taste. Such works of art are many times more beautiful than natural coral and have become rare artistic treasures. It is no wonder that her art is regarded as "treasures of the world."

The cobblestones that Professor Yuhua Wang hand-sculpted from light-weight material and painted are exquisite and were made with meticulous attention to detail. These intriguingly and unpredictably varied faux cobblestones are not only genuine-looking, they are even more beautiful than real cobblestones. Their spots, streaks, watermarks, weathered appearance, reflecting light, and hues are all life-like and exquisite. In all of their myriad variations, these cobblestones capture the spirit and form of real cobblestones yet surpass the beauty of natural ones. None of her cobblestones duplicates any other cobblestone in form, lines, color, or extent of weathered or aged appearance. Each cobblestone is in and of itself a meticulously and realistically painted work of art. Just like Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa* and Vincent van Gogh's *Sunflower*, Dr. Wang's oil painting on these cobblestones has been called wondrous color application and the most superb art in the world.

The ink and wash paintings of Professor Wang are boldly arranged yet lack the slightest trace of affectation. They have an air of ease and smoothness and convey a sense of complete naturalness. They express loftiness and broadmindedness and are imbued with deep charm and liveliness. Those works of art by Professor Wang can indeed be called ink and wash paintings of the highest order.

A great artist concluded that the lotus flowers painted by Professor Wang are the best in the world. He said, "She has an amazingly wide variety of techniques that she applies in an unpredictable way. It is hard to imagine that there is someone in this world with such adroit artistry. In her brush work, she merges charm, strength, hues, scholarliness, graceful jaggedness, vitality, self-cultivation, and morality."

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 7th, 2008

Dear Colleague:

We are writing to cordially invite you to an art exhibit of the "World's Highest-Level Color Paintings and Ink-Wash Paintings" and reception for renowned artist and sculptor, Dr. Yuhua Wang.

Dr. Wang's art will be available for viewing on Thursday, November 13th, 2008, from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., in HC-5 of the United States Capitol. An official reception honoring Dr. Wang's valuable contributions to art and cultural understanding will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Dr. Wang was born in China, and permanently resides in the United States. Since 2000, she has worked as a visiting professor of oriental arts in the College of Liberal Arts at Auburn University, where she has received several commendation certificates for excellent work performance.

In the history of Chinese art, Dr. Wang's Lotus Flower paintings are unsurpassed and are extremely valuable. In addition to being proficient in Chinese paintings, she has meticulously and delicately applied fine-brushwork and oil colors on hand-sculpted, coral and cobblestones, which have become treasures of the world. Dr. Wang's work in the Oriental arts across the nation has distinguished her as a leader in the field.

We hope you can join us for this wonderful event.

Corrine Brown
Corrine Brown
Member of Congress

Mal Abercrombie
Neil Abercrombie
Member of Congress

Laura Richardson
Laura Richardson
Member of Congress

Edward B. Royce
Edward B. Royce
Member of Congress

Secretary
Danny K. Davis
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

Adam Schiff
Adam Schiff
Member of Congress

Chaka Fattah
Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress



indeed. Members of Congress and members of the Congressional Arts Caucus added their support by signing and presenting certificates of commendation. During the official reception, members of Congress gave speeches expressing their respect for Professor Yuhua Wang. They praised Professor Wang for her outstanding contributions to world color-painting, sculpture, oriental arts, and the development of cultural exchange. A Congressional Commendation stated that Professor Wang is a selfless person whose moral character is noble. It also stated that through her practice of Buddhism, she benefits humanity and all living beings. Members of Congress who initiated the exhibition proudly presented that Congressional Commendation to Professor Wang as a symbol of appreciation and gratitude for her service to America and humanity. The Mayor of Washington DC, Adrian M. Fenty, presented to Professor Wang a certificate welcoming the exhibition of her artwork in the nation's capital and welcoming her to visit the entire area of Washington DC.

Members of Congress who initiated and held this art exhibition in-

scholar on art at the Rootstein Hopkins Research Chair in Drawing at the University of the Arts in London, and an R.A. (Royal Academician), evaluated the artwork of Dr. Wang. He concluded that her paintings may draw heavily upon the traditions of Eastern art, but they present themselves as extraordinarily western ideas and images. He also said that Dr. Wang's paintings very elegantly bring two forces together—the force that rejects perspective and the force of photorealism. In his short foreword to the book *World's Highest-Level Color Paintings and Ink-Wash Paintings—The Art of Professor Yuhua Wang*, Professor Farthing wrote that that the space Dr. Wang's paintings occupy was only opened up in Western culture in the 20th Century. He also wrote that Professor Wang's paintings "...reach across cultures to celebrate the space that exists intellectually and emotionally between representation and abstraction, between a fact and an idea."

It is said that a person's creations are a reflection of his or her character. Dr. Yuhua Wang has always been a very diligent person who leads a simple life. Even when she is ill, she

The modern paintings of Dr. Wang have a unique style to them. Their lines flow smoothly and freely. Their diverse and unpredictable color combinations can express bold intensity, overflowing enthusiasm, traditional elegance, inspiring vitality, rustic charm, or majestic splendor. Those paintings are truly a feast for the eyes. Deeply embedded within them are feelings and wondrous skills. Her modern paintings are very sophisticated and should be carefully viewed. Actually, a magnifying glass would reveal that each of the many different parts that make up one of her modern paintings is a work of art in and of itself with its own unending appeal. This proves that Professor Yuhua Wang's color application in modern paintings is another area

where she has attained consummate artistic mastery.

Take, for example, her work entitled *Yuhua*. The leaves were painted with bold strokes, giving them a sense of natural charm. The stem was painted from top to bottom with one vigorous stroke of the brush, producing a gracefully jagged effect. The flower conveys the sense that it was painted with ease. It does not have the form of a flower but appears like a flower. This adeptly created work is not tainted by the slightest artificial brushstroke. In all of these aspects, Yuhua embodies the apex of artistic accomplishment.

The exhibits displayed in this congressional exhibition deserve to be called "works of art" that are unique in the entire world. ■

AAA predicts decline in Thanksgiving travel

by DAVID KOENIG
AP Business Writer

DALLAS—Travel over the Thanksgiving holiday will drop for the first time in six years due to the economic slowdown and fewer airline flights, the auto club AAA forecast on Tuesday, November 18.

The travel club says 41 million Americans will travel at least 50 miles from home. That's down from 41.6 million last year.

AAA President Robert L. Darbelnet said the economy makes Thanksgiving travel a challenge for some Americans, but they'll get help from the recent decline in gasoline prices, which have tumbled from their summertime highs.

A gallon of self-serve regular gasoline has fallen 88 cents in the

past month, to \$2.07 a gallon. A year ago, it cost \$3.10 a gallon.

Car rental prices are 4 percent higher than a year ago, but mid-range hotel rooms are 10 percent cheaper, according to AAA.

AAA, which said it surveyed 8,500 people, forecast that four-fifths of holiday travelers, or 33.2 million, will go by car. That would be a 1.2 percent decline from last Thanksgiving.

The auto club expects 350,000 fewer Americans to travel by air, a 7.2 percent drop, to about 4.5 million. They will also pay more—average fares are 8 percent higher than a year ago, AAA said.

Airline industry officials said, however, that flights will still be

packed because there will be fewer of them.

The Air Transport Association forecast last week that 24 million passengers would fly on US airlines over the 12-day period around Thanksgiving, down 2 million from 2007 and the first decline since 2001.

"That will still translate to full planes because capacity has been reduced about 10 percent," David Castelvetter, a spokesman for the airline trade group, said Tuesday.

This summer, when jet fuel prices were at record highs and the economy was showing signs of slowing, US airlines announced flight reductions that took effect in the fall. So even with fewer passengers, Thanksgiving-period flights should aver-

age about 80 percent full, and 90 percent full on the three busiest days, according to the transport group.

Anticipating a holiday travel crunch, President George W. Bush announced Tuesday that the Pentagon would open unused military airspace for commercial airliners during the Thanksgiving and Christmas travel periods.

Last year, two military flight corridors were opened to commercial jets along the East Coast. This year, additional lanes will be added in the Midwest, Southwest and the West Coast, Bush said.

Airline industry officials said the moves helped last year, but not as much as good weather.

"Every little bit helps," said Tim Wagner, a spokesman for American Airlines. ■

Big trouble for small casinos, industry head says

by OSKAR GARCIA
AP Writer

LAS VEGAS—The president and chief executive of the American Gaming Association says that while all casino companies are facing problems because of a rough economy, smaller operators nationwide are less likely to survive.

Frank Fahrenkopf Jr. told reporters on Tuesday, November 18, that the same is true for companies that support casinos, like slot manufacturers and other suppliers.

Fahrenkopf says US casinos took in \$8.4 billion in revenue during the third quarter of this year, down 4.6 percent from the same period one year ago.

He says that while individual markets face different issues—hurricanes in Mississippi and Louisiana or smoking bans in Illinois and Colorado, for example—the industry is facing "unprecedented" larger problems with trouble borrowing money and consumers spending less. ■



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