



Media Alert: March 26, 2019

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April at Asia Society Texas Center: Regional Premiere Spotlights Post-9/11 American Muslim Experiences in Ping Chong's Innovative Production *Beyond Sacred: Voices of Muslim Identity*



HOUSTON, TX – Asia Society Texas Center (ASTC) is pleased to welcome **Ping Chong + Company** to present the regional premiere of *Beyond Sacred: Voices of Muslim Identity* for two performances, April 5 and April 6.

Featuring five non-actors weaving together their own true stories into a powerful narrative, *Beyond Sacred* illuminates the daily experiences of young Muslim Americans who came of age in a post-9/11 society in NYC, and who are building their lives in a time of continued fear of and violence towards Muslims. *Beyond Sacred* was developed through a community-engaged process as part of Ping Chong + Company's *Undesirable Elements* series of oral history theater works exploring the effects of history, culture, and ethnicity on the lives of individuals in a community.

April 2019

What: *Beyond Sacred: Voices of Muslim Identity*

In *Beyond Sacred: Voices of Muslim Identity*, five young Americans weave together their own distinct stories of growing up Muslim in a post-9/11 society in NYC. An interview-based theater production featuring non-actors, *Beyond Sacred* was developed through a community-engaged process as part of **Ping Chong + Company's** *Undesirable Elements*.

“Probing and persuasive” (*The New York Times*), this production of *Beyond Sacred* makes its regional debut at Asia Society Texas Center.

More info: <https://asi.as/BeyondSacred>



When: TWO SHOWTIMES: **Friday, April 5, and Saturday, April 6, 2019, 7:30 p.m.**
Where: Asia Society Texas Center, 1370 Southmore at Caroline, 77004 (Museum District)
Admission: \$20 ASTC Members, \$30 Nonmembers

What: **Artist Talk: The Legacy and Future of Korean Papermaking**
 Artist **Aimee Lee** discusses her work in *hanji* (Korean paper) as part of “The Magic of Korean Papermaking” Workshop at the Glassell School of Arts. This presentation will describe how *hanji* is made in both Korea and the U.S., and how it is used for books, sculpture, jewelry, and artwork.

More info: <https://asi.as/aXm7IL>

When: **Friday, April 12, 2019, 6:30 p.m.**
Where: Asia Society Texas Center, 1370 Southmore at Caroline, 77004 (Museum District)
Admission: \$5 ASTC Members, Students, and Seniors; \$10 Nonmembers. Admission is included for those enrolled in the April 13–14 workshop.

What: **Family Workshop: LEGO, STEM, and Inventions from Asia**
 In this family workshop, find out how Japan, China, and India paved the way for the origins of technologies like the electric car, robots, and rockets. Build, learn, and play while exploring the realms of STEM and having fun with specialized LEGO Technic models. This workshop is open to all kids ages 6–12; each ticket admits one child and one adult.

More info: <https://asi.as/WeHHeF>

When: **Saturday, April 13, 2019, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**
Where: Asia Society Texas Center, 1370 Southmore at Caroline, 77004 (Museum District)
Admission: \$15 ASTC Members (Includes one child and one adult), \$20 Nonmembers (Includes one child and one adult)

What: **The Magic of Korean Papermaking Workshop**
 In this process-focused workshop, students learn to make one style of *hanji* (Korean paper), working together to prepare raw materials for sheet formation in the *gadum tteugi* method. This two-day class is ideal for those with papermaking experience and those interested in the history and folklore of *hanji*, but is open to all levels.

More information: <https://asi.as/tpVhSm>

When: **Saturday, April 13, and Sunday, April 14, 2019, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**
Where: The Glassell School of Art, 5101 Montrose Blvd, 77006
Admission: \$240 for the entire workshop. This fee also includes the lecture at ASTC on April 12

What: **Mindfulness and Aging: The Link between Mind and Body**
 Join Asia Society Texas Center and AARP for this discussion on the link between mind and body in the context of health and aging and how mindfulness can improve healthy living, particularly among older populations.

More information: <https://asi.as/tF9aMG>



When: Tuesday, April 23 2019, 6–8 p.m.
Where: Asia Society Texas Center, 1370 Southmore at Caroline, 77004 (Museum District)
Admission: \$10 ASTC Members, \$20 Nonmembers

What: **Breakfast and Conversation with Dr. Michael Mandelbaum: *The Rise and Fall of Peace on Earth***

In his new book, *The Rise and Fall of Peace on Earth*, Professor Michael Mandelbaum, foreign policy expert and Professor Emeritus at the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University, describes how and why peace was established following the end of the Cold War before falling apart as three major countries began pursuing aggressive nationalist policies. A conversation with Professor Mandelbaum on *The Rise and Fall of Peace on Earth*.

More information: <https://asi.as/nlcEPs>

When: Wednesday, April 24, 2019, 8–9:30 a.m.
Where: Asia Society Texas Center, 1370 Southmore at Caroline, 77004 (Museum District)
Admission: \$15 ASTC Members, \$25 Nonmembers

What: **Vietnam Travelogue: A Journey through Food and Photography**

Asia Society Texas Center invites you to explore the culture of Vietnam through an evening of food and photography. Join renowned Houston chef **Nicole Routhier** of Le Colonial and *National Geographic* photographer **Catherine Karnow** for a conversation about their personal and professional experiences in Vietnam.

More information: <https://asi.as/YUJgaU>

When: Tuesday, April 30, 2019, 6:15–7:30 p.m.
Where: Asia Society Texas Center, 1370 Southmore at Caroline, 77004 (Museum District)
Admission: \$15 ASTC Members, \$25 Nonmembers

Ongoing Exhibitions

What: ***Super Sarap* – NEW EXHIBITION**

Artists **Mik Gaspay**, **Jeanne F. Jalandoni**, **Charlene Tan**, and **O.M. France Viana** revisit commonplace objects and food within Filipino cooking. Through sculpture, photography, and video, the artists elicit personal and collective memories and offer cultural connections that go beyond the Philippine diaspora.

The exhibition title, *Super Sarap*, fuses both English and Tagalog together, to hold multiple meanings. It can convey something that is extremely delicious, an expression of excitement and affirmation. It can also imply an exaggeration in terms of scale: something that is beyond, powerful, large, and exceeding the norm. In this exhibition, the artists play with these definitions and mutate symbols, making them both strange and familiar, challenging cultural norms associated with food.



More info: <https://asi.as/SuperSarap>

When: March 16 – July 21, 2019

When: Asia Society Texas Center, 1370 Southmore at Caroline, 77004 (Museum District)

Admission: Free

Looking ahead

What: AsiaFest 2019

Celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month at AsiaFest! An international bazaar, performances, arts and crafts, fusion cuisine, and live demonstrations await at Asia Society Texas Center's annual free festival. New this year, we invite guests to embark on an adventure through Asia, using our passport to explore different regions' traditions, cultures, and food!

More information: <https://asi.as/AsiaFest2019>

When: Saturday, May 11, 2019, 11 a.m. – 5 a.m.

When: Asia Society Texas Center, 1370 Southmore at Caroline, 77004 (Museum District)

Admission: FREE and open to the public

About Asia Society Texas Center: With 13 locations throughout the world, Asia Society is the leading educational organization promoting mutual understanding and strengthening partnerships among the peoples, leaders, and institutions of Asia and the West. Asia Society Texas Center executes the global mission with a local focus, enriching and engaging the vast diversity of Houston through innovative, relevant programs in arts and culture, business and policy, education, and community outreach.