

2009 AWARD DINNER HONORING WU HUNG

The 2009 Award for the Distinguished Scholar Award in Chinese Art History was given on March 18, 2009 to Wu Hung. He is the Director of the Center for the Art of East Asia, a consulting curator at Smart Museum of Art and the Vanderstappen Distinguished Service Professor in Chinese

with his extensive exhibition history. Shelby White, trustee of the Leon Levy Foundation, highlighted Professor Wu's scholarly interests and achievements in Ancient Chinese Art History.

In his address at dinner, Professor Wu addressed Ms. Chiu and Mrs. White's remarks regarding the need to amalgamate Chinese art history into world art history. From ancient times to the present, Professor Wu observed the lack of definition in what is the meaning of Chinese art. As the modern day world continues to globalize, Professor Wu urged for new scholarship where Chinese Art is discussed in the larger world context.



Art History in the Department of Art History and Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. Professor Wu's extensive research interests include relationships between visual forms – such as architecture, bronze vessels, pictorial carvings and murals – and ritual, social memory and political discourse. He has published widely on art history from the pre-modern to the contemporary, and curated numerous exhibitions.

Wu Hung, the fourth recipient of the award, was honored with a \$10,000 and an engraved crystal medallion. 60 friends, members, scholars, and collectors gathered to congratulate him at the Knickerbocker Club. The Leon Levy Foundation generously underwrote the dinner.

In the AFSM president's introduction, Patricia Tang noted that Professor Wu was recognized as a "superstar" among his colleagues and other scholars. Director of the Asia Society and Museum, Melissa Chiu remarked on Professor Wu's contributions to the contemporary art world

