

**SPECIAL LECTURE SERIES**  
**DEITIES IN JAPANESE ART**  
**SESSION 5: CELESTIAL BEINGS**

in collaboration with [Los Angeles County Museum of Art](#)



*Bishamonten , Kamakura Period, circa 1250, Gift of the 2002 Collectors Committee, Photo © Museum Associates/ LACMA*

Date & Time:

Tuesday, January 16, 7pm

Light refreshment will be provided.

Venue:

The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles  
(5700 Wilshire Blvd., #100 Los Angeles, CA 90036)

Street parking is available near JFLA. [Click here for parking info.](#)

Admission Free

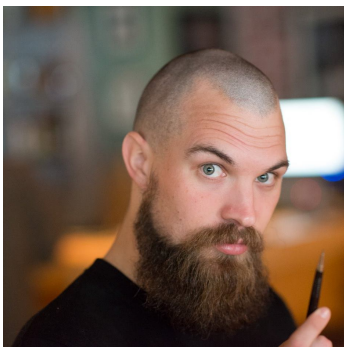
**Note:** We are now using EventBrite as our RSVP system so don't be surprised if this looks different than before!

The final class of deities - known collectively as the celestial beings (*Ten* in Japanese) - primarily serve as guardians and protectors of the Buddhist cosmos. The most prominent are the Four Celestial Guardian Kings who oversee the cardinal directions, the chief of whom came to be worshiped alone as a Buddhist deity; other examples include the Temple Guardians and Twelve Celestial Generals. In this lecture, we will be introduced to the many kinds of Celestial Beings and their various roles, as well as how they are portrayed artistically.

This will be the fifth and final lecture in this series and will begin with a quick review of what was covered in previous lectures to give first-time attendees context as to where Celestial Beings fit into the hierarchy of deities in Buddhism. No prior knowledge is necessary to enjoy this fun and fascinating talk!

This lecture series is the product of a special collaboration with the Los Angeles County Museum (LACMA), Japanese Art Department.

## ABOUT LECTURER



**Michael VanHartingsveldt** graduated in 2017 with a Master's Degree in East Asian Art Business from Sotheby's Institute of Art and Claremont Graduate University. His work as a research and curatorial intern with the Pavilion for Japanese Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art has culminated in several notable projects, including a detailed analysis of LACMA's sculpture of Fudō Myōō and an exhibition with Hollis Goodall entitled "Japanese Paintings: A Walk in Nature" on themes in Edo-period paintings of the landscape.

Upcoming Events

JAPANEMA = Japanese Cinema

Arts & Culture Grants

Rental Exhibitions

Past Events: Lecture Series



JFLA Lecture Series 60

JFLA Lecture Series 59

JFLA Lecture Series 58

JFLA Lecture Series 57

JFLA Lecture Series 56

JFLA Lecture Series 55

JFLA Lecture Series 54

JFLA Lecture Series 53

JFLA Lecture Series 52

JFLA Lecture Series 51

JFLA Lecture Series 50

JFLA Lecture Series 49

JFLA Lecture Series 48

JFLA Lecture Series 47

JFLA Lecture Series 46

JFLA Lecture Series 45

JFLA Lecture Series 44

JFLA Lecture Series 43

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JFLA Lecture Series 41

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JFLA Lecture Series 12

JFLA Lecture Series 11

JFLA Lecture Series 10

JFLA Lecture Series 09

JFLA Lecture Series 08

JFLA Lecture Series 07

JFLA Lecture Series 06

JFLA Lecture Series 05

JFLA Lecture Series 04

JFLA Lecture Series 03

JFLA Lecture Series 02

JFLA Lecture Series 01

Past Events: Lecture Series

Past Events: Exhibitions

Past Events: Others

Past Events: Japanema

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5700 Wilshire blvd, Suite 100

Los Angeles, CA 90036

P. 323.761.7510

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Annual Report

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