



Pietro AMADINI

Associate Professor, JISU, Changchun, CN



Pietro Amadini is a historian and art historian with strong experience in museology. One of his main achievements has been the creation of the Asian Art Galleries for MuDEC, the Museum of Cultures of Milan. He has brought his competence as an adjunct professor at Ca' Foscari University of Venice developing a Masters' Course in Museology related to Italian and European collections of Asian art.

Academic Qualifications

2010 – 2013

PhD in Languages, Cultures and Societies of East Asia, Ca' Foscari University of Venice

Thesis: *From 1870, one hundred years of East Asian art collecting in Milan* (tutor: Prof. G.C. Calza). The research presents in detail two collections which are taken as examples of the East Asian art collecting in Milan. The study analyses also other relevant collections of Chinese and Japanese art, alongside the most renowned Asian art dealers of the 19th and the early 20th century, in order to highlight the changing collecting trends occurred in Milan over a century

1994 – 1999

BA/MA degree in Oriental Languages and Literatures, Ca' Foscari University of Venice – Major: Japanese Studies

Examinations taken for specialisation in Asian arts: Chinese Art (Prof. N. Celli), Japanese Art (Prof. G.C. Calza), Himalayan Buddhist Iconography (Prof. G.G. Filippi), Indian Art (Prof. G.G. Filippi), Conservation of Musical Instruments (Prof. Zaniol), paper on the art of Japanese sword forging (Prof. G.C. Calza)

Thesis: *Japanese Polearms* (mentor and advisor: Prof. G. C. Calza; tutor: Prof. B. Rupert). Extensive Study on Japanese polearms from prehistory to the present day: their craft, evolution, shape, use, artistic value, care and conservation-related issues. Included a personal review and cataloguing of some items from the Stibbert Museum in Florence (Keeper: dott. F. Civita)

Certificates

Since 2014

Registered as Expert in Asian Antiques with the Chamber of Commerce of Milan (Albo dei Periti e degli Esperti – iscrizione n. 2818)

Registered as Technical Consultant with the civil Court of Milan (C.T.U. del Tribunale di Milano – iscrizione n. 13497)

30-31 January 2006

Course in cataloguing “Corso di aggiornamento per catalogatori in Lombardia”, Milan

September 2004 – October 2005

One year intensive course in Chinese language, Fudan University, Shanghai

May – July 2002

Course in Japanese language, Geos Kudan Institute, Tokyo

January– June 1992

Cambridge First Certificate, U.C.L.E.S., The Working Men's College College, London

1986 –1991

High School degree in Language Studies, Liceo Linguistico Alessandro Manzoni, Magenta

Languages and skills

Languages: English, French, Japanese, Chinese

Computer Skills: Advanced use of M. Office; proficient in presentations, digital imaging and creation of databases



Work experience

Since March 2019

Associate Professor – JISU University, Changchun, Jilin, China.

Since 2000

Asian Art Consultant

Institutions: Castello del Buon Consiglio Museum, Trento (2015-2018, requested by Dr. Laura dal Pra); Raccolte Extraeuropee del Museo delle Culture and Castello Sforzesco, Milan (2000-2015, requested by dott. Claudio Salsi and dr. Marina Pugliese, directors, Dr. Francesca Tasso, keeper, Dr. Carolina Orsini, curator); Superintendence of Milan (April 2014, requested by dott. Daniele Pescarmona); Leonardo da Vinci National Science Museum, Milan (2011, requested by Dr. Claudio Giorgione, Curator); Pinacoteca Ambrosiana (2009, requested by dott. Elena Mantia, Curator) Risorgimento Museum and Museum of Milan (January-March 2006, requested by dott. Maura Bertoli, Curator and dott. Bruno Guerri, director)

Duties and achievements: in the last fifteen years I have studied and catalogued Chinese and Japanese works of art such as paintings, prints, textiles, lacquers, jades, ivories, arms and armours, *tsuba* and *netsuke*, gaining a particular experience in ceramics, textiles and later bronzes. Most of my work is published in printed and online museum catalogues

Acting as assistant/associate curator for the Asian Collections, Raccolte Extraeuropee, Municipality of Milan, I was in charge of: the selection of works for display in permanent and temporary exhibitions; devising and creating gallery routes; writing signs, captions and panels; supervising the display of the exhibits in the showcases; on-the-spot maintenance and routine care of objects; devising chronological records for restoration projects divided by material; making surveys and estimations of private collections and works of art and carrying out a feasibility report for their exhibition; managing and instructing groups of up to five interns

For the SIRBeC project with Regione Lombardia, I also studied and catalogued a collection of world arms (Asian, African, American and Oceanian) re-identifying and matching items from 19th century collections with their original donors. Such items had been misplaced during the Second World War

I worked for privately owned collections cataloguing Longquan green-ware and Jades

I produced an estimation expertise for two Chinese swords which were seized by the Comando Carabinieri Tutela Patrimonio Culturale, Monza

February 2016 – January 2017/ 2018 – 2019

Adjunct Professor - docente a contratto at Ca' Foscari University of Venice

Courses: History of Japanese Art 1 [LT0400] and History of Japanese Art 2 [LT0410] MA course: *Japanese art collections in Italy, a museological perspective* [LM0120]

July 2013 – October 2014

Director of the Asian Art department at the auction house Il Ponte, Milan

Duties and achievements: in charge of surveying, estimating and cataloguing Asian works of art offered to the auction house, reporting directly to the company owner and to the managing director. I was in direct relation with the department assistant and with the responsible of the catalogue for the organization of three main Chinese art auctions. I was also cooperating with a larger group of employees for the cataloguing of objects to be auctioned every month at a minor company branch

Other

Member of scientific committees

Museum of Cultures (2001; 2009; 2012); Exhibition "Luca Beltrami (1854 – 1933) storia, arte e architettura a Milano" (March 27th – June 29th 2014 Castello Sforzesco, Milan, date: Museums of Milan); Exhibition "Dal museo Cernuschi di Parigi, Viaggio in Oriente, L'avventura di Enrico Cernuschi (1821-1896) patriota, finanziere, collezionista (Villa Reale, Monza, 2 December 2005 – 19 February 2006)

Tutor for different MA graduation thesis at Venice University

Lecturer

The Asian Art Collection of Don Giuseppe Grazioli at the Buonconsiglio Museum of Trento, at AISTUGIA (Italian Association for Japanese Studies), September 2021

Seminar on Chinese culture and society for "Master in turismo", Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Brescia (requested by Prof. M. Rizzi), 24 September 2005

Recipient of a study grant for Japanese art studies conferred by The International Hokusai Research Centre, University of Venice, based in Milan (May 2000 - April 2001)

Achievements: apart from personal studies, managed the library and archive. Written contact was maintained with museums from countries around the world which had loaned prints to the International Exhibition on Hokusai, held in Milan (2000)

1992 – 1993

Compulsory Italian Military Service carried out at the Air Force Weather Station, Linate Airport (Milan)



Main publications

Le due spade, preface to the book by Civati Ornella, *Myamoto Musashi - Opere complete - Il libro dei cinque anelli e altri scritti*, Chermignon (CH), NuiNui, 2021.

Catalogue records of Asian works of art in: Alessandro OLDANI e Paola ZATTI (a cura di) "Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Milano. Le collezioni" [Catalogue of the GAM -Gallery of Modern Art-, Milan], Milano, Officina Libraria, 2017, pagg. 268-275, 281, 283, 392, 431

Catalogue records of Asian works of art in AA.VV., "*Rex and the City*", *i sauri e noi* [IV sec. a.C. - XX sec.]: pp. 51-57. publication date Jul 9, 2017 publication description MUDEC

"La via della seta: i viaggi commerciali all'origine delle raccolte asiatiche" [The Silk route: trade voyages and the Asiatic collections] + records and contributions on the Asian art and Arms and armors Collections of the permanent exhibition, in *MUDEC – Museo delle Culture, catalogo delle opere e guida al percorso*, Milano, MuDec e 24Ore cultura, 2015, pp. 82-87, 100-127, 204-211

"L'Esposizione storica d'arte industriale ai Giardini Pubblici" [The Historical Industrial-art Exhibition in Milan], in AA.VV., *Mondi a Milano, culture ed esposizioni 1874-1940* (catalogo della mostra), Milano, MuDec e 24Ore cultura, 2015, pp. 45-51.

"La sala dei bronzi al Castello Sforzesco. Le collezioni asiatiche" [The 'Room of Bronzes' at the Castello Sforzesco: the Asiatic collections], in PAOLI, Silvia (a cura di), *Luca Beltrami 1854-1933. Storia, arte e architettura a Milano*, Milano, Silvana Editoriale, Milano, 2014, pp. 205-209

"Presenze di arte asiatica nella Raccolta Carlo Grassi" [Asiatic Art in the Carlo Grassi Collection], in OLDANI, Carlo (a cura di), *Galleria d'Arte Moderna di Milano, collezioni Grassi e Vismara*, Torino, Umberto Allemandi & C., 2014, pp. 8-9

Catalogue records of Japanese and Chinese Works of Art in: BASSO, Laura e MARMORI Andrea, *Donare Doni. Amedeo Lia e Lodovico Barbiano di Belgiojoso*, La Spezia, Museo Civico "Amedeo Lia", 2013, pp. 22-27

Catalogue records of Japanese works of art in: MORENA, Francesco, *Di linea e di colore. Il Giappone, le sue arti e l'incontro con l'Occidente*, (Catalogo della mostra) [Japan, its arts and the meeting with the West], Firenze, Sillabe, 2012, pp. 142, 342

"Arte Orientale" [Oriental Art], in AA. VV., *Pinacoteca Ambrosiana, Tomo VI*, Milano, Electa, 2010. Catalogue on the art collections belonging to "Ambrosiana, Milan" with the study of East Asian art objects and chinoiseries

"Acquisto di una sella centroasiatica per la collezione islamica" [Purchase of a Middle East saddle for the Islamic Collections] in *Rassegna di studi e notizie*, Vol. XXXI, Anno XXXIV, Milano, Castello Sforzesco, 2007-8, pp. 281-292

"Il Buddha della vita eterna 'rinasce' al Castello Sforzesco", in *Annali di Ca' Foscari, serie orientale 37*, Vol. XLV, 3, 2006, University of Venice. The Article discusses the study I made at Castello Sforzesco Museum of an important ceramic Buddha statue deriving from the famous Summer Palace (Yiheyuan) of Beijing

"Il gusto collezionistico rivolto all'Oriente, il caso milanese" [Italian and Milanese Collectionism of Oriental Art in the 19th Century], in AA.VV., *Dal museo Cernuschi di Parigi, Viaggio in Oriente, L'avventura di Enrico Cernuschi (1821-1896) patriota, finanziere, collezionista, catalogue*, Milano, Federico Motta Editore, 2005. In the same catalogue, seven sheets of scientific study on oriental works of art

"Ceramiche e porcellane cinesi per il Centro delle Culture Extraeuropee" [Chinese Ceramics for the Centre of extra-European Culture], in *Rassegna di studi e notizie*, Vol. XXVII, Anno XXX, Milano, Castello Sforzesco, 2003, pp.13-31