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THE TULSA TRIBUNE, TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Philbrook to show rare Chinese art

A RARE COLLECTION OF CHINESE paintings including masterpieces from the 14th to the 20th centuries will be exhibited at Philbrook Art Center Saturday through Feb. 22.

The exhibition, "Chinese Paintings from the Arthur M. Sackler Collections," will be loaned to Philbrook by the Princeton University Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and Arthur M. Sackler.

Included are more than 180 pieces including album leaves, hanging scrolls and hand scrolls. One hanging scroll in the exhibit measures 13 feet, 11 inches in length.

"This undoubtedly is one of the most important exhibitions of Chinese art ever to be seen west of the Mississippi," said Alexander Stoa, president and executive director of Philbrook. "In fact," he added, "this same show is scheduled for exhibit next year in the Metropolitan Museum of Art."

MRS. LOIS KATZ, curator of the Sackler Collections and former curator at the Brooklyn Museum, will be in Tulsa for the opening. Mrs. Katz will give a lecture on the Chinese exhibit Sunday at 2 p.m.

The nucleus of the exhibit is 15 works of painting and calligraphy by Tao-chi (1641-ca. 1710), the leading individual Chinese master of the early Ch'ing period.

The earliest work is from an album dated 1677-78, and the latest is a major album of 12 landscapes dated 1707. These 15 objects — seven scrolls and eight albums — comprise 73 individual leaves that demonstrate the full stylistic range of Tao-chi's landscape, figure, flower and fruit painting and his calligraphy.

The 15 works now constitute the largest body of authenticated works by this leading 17th century Chinese painter.

THE SACKLER COLLECTION also includes a forgery album of six landscape leaves in Tao-chi's style as well as copies of three Tao-chi works in the collection.

With the exception of one album and one leaf of calligraphy in the Sackler Collection, all the works by Tao-chi originally belonged to the famous contemporary Chinese painter and collector Chang Yuan, a man who is regarded as the greatest living authority on Tao-chi.

The Philbrook exhibit will be accompanied by a catalog of the works prepared under the direction of Wen C. Fong, chairman of the department of art and archeology at Princeton University.

A gala opening for Philbrook members and guests is planned tonight.