



Institutskolloquium HS 2020

«Celebrating Fifty Years of East Asian Art History at the University of Zurich»

«Cosmology in Han Grave Art»

Prof. Dr. Nataša Vampelj Suhadolnik
University of Ljubljana

Wednesday, 04 November 2020, 18:15–19:45

ZOOM online video conference



Middle chamber of the *Mixian Dahuting no. 2* tomb 密縣打虎亭 2 號, Henan

The excavations of tombs with murals from the Han dynasty (206BC–220CE) brought to light a great quantity of very rich archaeological material which has contributed considerably to our knowledge of how the Han people viewed the afterlife and their place in the cosmos, and how this view was reflected in their posthumous, underground home.

The present lecture will therefore focus on the reflection of cosmology in the architectural and pictorial design of the Han tombs with murals. We will discuss how the Chinese understand the cosmos, its shape and its functioning, how did they divide the sky and how all these ideas reflected in their construction of the Han tombs with murals. We will thus step by step build a Han dynasty tomb to construct a micro-cosmos.

The public lecture series is organized by the department for East Asian Art (Institute of Art History, University of Zurich), and is supported by the Swiss-Japanese Chamber of Commerce (SJCC) and the Swiss-Japanese Society (SJG). For further information on the anniversary lecture series, please contact Sabine Bradel (Sabine.Bradel@khist.uzh.ch) or visit us at: www.khist.uzh.ch/KGOA50