

"Gesture and Beyond"

Art of Ink in America Society

The Art of Ink in America Society has joined Western abstract calligraphy with Eastern calligraphy, making the group and group exhibitions exceptionally rich and diverse.

Dr. Yoo Sung Lee, the current president of AIAS notes in the Prologue of the current catalog, "Contemporary calligraphy is a visual expression of the mind, so there are as many expressions as there are minds. Possibly an overwhelming concept, it reflects the milieu of modern calligraphy practice. The emotions and subtle expressions of each artist are made visible to others who, with their own minds, understand the images in additionally meaningful ways. In this art form, endless possibilities are presented and received.

"The abstraction of traditional Western letters and Asian characters facilitates a more complex kind of communication because the literal translation of the forms has been infused with greater meaning. The effort might be subtle and barely comprehensible, purposely creating doubt or alternatively, an illustrative approach. Both approaches attempt to be stronger than words alone. Added to the richness of prose or poetry, on multiple levels there is much to appreciate. Some artists approach their visual work as if it were music or dance in two dimensions. Using our imaginations, we may be able to hear the work or see it move."

Since the Art of Ink in America group was founded in New York in 1994 by Dr. Sun Wuk Kim, with eight calligraphers, AIAS has grown into an international organization with members from across the United States and Korea, Japan, Switzerland, Italy, France, and Germany. Exhibitions have been held in many states from New York to Oregon and California, from Connecticut to Alabama and Florida, and overseas in Korea, China, Thailand, Taiwan and France.

"This exhibition continues at the Charles Chu Reading Room, Charles E. Shain Library, Connecticut College, New London. Call 860-439-2655 for hours. Final reception with talks and demonstrations: Thursday, April 17, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m."