

The International Events and Opportunities Newsletter

Week of April 11-17

*****Note: the last CICS event will take place on April 21!
Don't Miss out!!! *****

This Is To Be Done – Contemporary Poets and Asia
Wednesday, April 16th
Program: 7:00 pm
Light Reception: 8:00 pm

You are invited to Asia Society Presents! This Is To Be Done – Contemporary Poets and Asia on Wednesday, April 16th at 7:00pm. This performance reading, free with reservations, will explore our troubling world through the lens of poetic bilingualism. Led by John Cayley, Myung Mi Kim, Yang Lian, and Lynn Xu, each reading will introduce contemporary poetry and Asia to the greater Houston community. In partnership with the Chao Center for Asian Studies at Rice University, "This is to be Done—Contemporary Poets and Asia" is part of My Voice Would Reach You, a series of arts, culture, and exhibition events around Houston from April 12-20, 2014. For more information, please visit MVWRY.com.

For information & reservations, please visit us here:

<http://www.asiasociety.org/texas/events/asia-society-presents-be-done%E2%80%94contemporary-poets-and-asia>

Planning to attend? Let your friends know by joining the event on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/743104879033519/>

Additional information about the poets participating in this event has been included below.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to call us at 713.496.9901

About John Cayley

John Cayley has practiced as a poet, translator, publisher, and bookdealer. All of these activities have often intersected with his training in Chinese culture and language. Cayley was the winner of the Electronic Literature Organization's Award for Poetry in 2001 and has taught internationally. His most recent work explores ambient poetics in programmable media, writing in immersive artificial audiovisual environments, and aestheticized vectors of reading.

About Myung Mi Kim

Myung Mi Kim was born in Seoul, South Korea and immigrated with her family to the United States at the age of nine. Her collection of poems *Under Flag* won the Multicultural Publishers Exchange Award of Merit. An avant-garde poet, she explores issues of dislocation, colonization, immigration, loss of her first language, and the fallout of history in her work. She has taught at San Francisco State University and in the Poetics Program at SUNY Buffalo.

About Yang Lian

Yang Lian was born in Switzerland in 1955 and grew up in Beijing. He began writing when he was sent down to labor in the countryside during the Cultural Revolution. Yang Lian accepted invitations to visit Australia and New Zealand in 1988 and became a poet in exile after the 1989 Tiananmen Incident. He has since published seven volumes of poems, two volumes of prose, and many essays in Chinese, and has been translated into more than twenty languages. He was nominated for the Nobel Prize in Literature, and in 1999 he was awarded the Flaiano International Prize for Poetry.

About Lynn Xu

Shanghai-born poet Lynn Xu is the author of the collection *Debts & Lessons* and the chapbook *June*, and her work has been featured in *Best American Poetry*. Her interests remain with nature, poetry, poetics, and their due trespass into philosophy and psychoanalysis. Xu composes poems engaged with structure on an intimate level, simultaneously unraveling and accruing. Her honors include a Fulbright Fellowship and a William L. Magistretti Fellowship.

About the Chao Center for Asian Studies

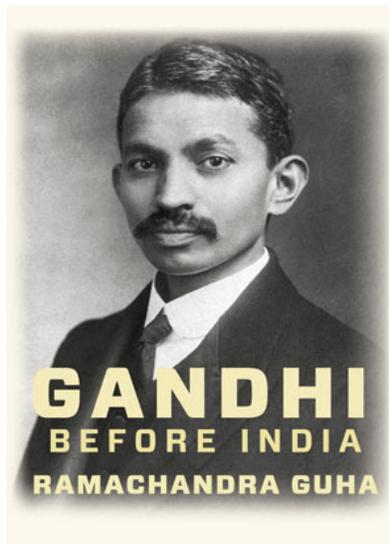
The Chao Center for Asian Studies at Rice University is a research institute attached to a thriving undergraduate major. The Center supports a model of Asian Studies that looks carefully and critically at the complex ways people in Asia have been involved with one another and with the rest of the world, not only today, but also in the past.

Ghandi: Before India

A reading, discussion, & book-signing

Monday, April 21st

6:30 p.m.



The first in a multiple-volume biography of one of the 20th century's most influential and controversial men, *Gandhi Before India* takes us from Gandhi's birth in 1869 through his two decades as a lawyer and community organizer in South Africa. The result, writes *The Guardian*, is "a work of vivid social history (and) fresh biography." Winning access to private family papers and secret files kept by the British Empire, Guha captures the social, political, and personal worlds of a man whose legacy resonates in our time – for all time.

“Indian democracy's pre-eminent chronicler” (Time Magazine), Ramachandra Guha has held visiting professorships at Stanford, Yale, and the London School of Economics. He lives in Bangalore.

Copies of *Gandhi Before India* will be on sale at the Menil Collection Bookstore beginning April 15. The book can also be purchased at the museum for the author to sign on April 21.

Free and open to the public
For more information: menil.org
713-525-9400

EU Security Policy and Transatlantic Relations

**Monday, April 21, 11:30-1:45
in M106 (McElhinney Hall)**

Fran Burwell
Vice President and Director
Transatlantic Relations, the Atlantic Council



Fran Burwell's areas of expertise include US-EU relations and the development of the European Union's foreign and defense policies, and a range of transatlantic economic and political issues. She is the principal author or rapporteur of several Atlantic Council publications including *Transatlantic Leadership for a New Global Economy*; *Transatlantic Transformation: Building a New NATO-EU Security Architecture*; *Law and the Lone Superpower: Rebuilding a Transatlantic Consensus on International Law*; and *The Post-9/11*

Partnership: Transatlantic Cooperation Against Terrorism. She is the co-editor (with Ivo H. Daalder) of *The United States and Europe in the Global Arena*.

Prior to joining the Council, Burwell was executive director of the Center for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland, and also served as founding executive director of Women In International Security. Her webpage can be found [here](#).

This will be **the last CICS event this semester**, so make sure to attend! We look forward to seeing you there!

Ambassador Sichan Siv
Tuesday, April 22nd
7:00 p.m.

Join **at Asia Society Texas Center on Tuesday**, as he tells his amazing story — from escaping the Cambodian genocide, to being a taxi driver in New York, to finally being appointed the United States Ambassador to the United Nations.

Sichan Siv is the international bestselling author of *Golden Bones*, an American dream story, and the poetry book *Golden Words*. Ambassador Siv holds a master of international affairs from Columbia University. He escaped Cambodia's killing fields in 1976 and was resettled as a refugee in Connecticut with his mother's scarf, an empty rice bag, and \$2.00. Siv is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the George H.W. Bush Award for Outstanding Public Service, U.S. Army Commander's Award and Brazilian Academy of Art, Culture and History Honors. He has been a volunteer in the Civil Air Patrol and an honorary commander of the U.S. Air Force. He is married to the former Martha Pattillo of Pampa, Texas.

In 2001 after unanimous confirmation by the Senate, he was appointed by President George W. Bush as an ambassador to the U.N., serving until 2006. In June 2005, Ambassador Siv represented the United States at the 60th anniversary of the U.N., in the footsteps of Presidents Truman in 1945, Eisenhower in 1955, Johnson in 1965, and Clinton in 1995. From 1989 to 1993, Ambassador Siv served at The White House as Deputy Assistant to

President George H.W. Bush and at the State Department as Deputy Assistant Secretary. In the private sector, he has held positions in social services, educational exchange, financial management, and investment banking. He provides global strategic advice and gives motivational speeches around the United States and the world.

On offer this evening will be special items from the South China Seas selection, on sale for all attendees with a portion of the proceeds benefiting Asia Society Texas Center.

Tickets
\$5 for Asia Society Members
\$10 for Nonmembers
All sales are final.

For more information on this program or to purchase tickets, please visit:
<http://asiasociety.org/texas/events/ambassador-sichan-siv-killing-fields-white-house>

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