Exhibition Available for Rental

This exhibit explores Asian gardens in 1926 and 1927 through the eyes of Elizabeth K. Roys, a botany student whose written descriptions, hand-drawn plans, and striking photography capture the landscapes of a vanished era.

Produced by the Botanic Garden of Smith College.
Asian Gardens of the 1920s: The Travels of Elizabeth K. Roys is a unique traveling exhibition produced by the Botanic Garden of Smith College in collaboration with landscape historian Betsy Anderson.

As a student of botany at Smith College, Elizabeth Roys toured Asia with her mother in 1926–27, exploring gardens in China, Japan, Korea, Siam (now Thailand), and India. She compiled detailed records and observations in five notebooks, which she kept all her life, and which were not discovered until 2002. Now, eighty years since Elizabeth Roys embarked on her remarkable Asian journey, these well-kept treasures are coming into public view through the efforts of Betsy Anderson, currently the Garden Historian at The Mount (Edith Wharton’s Estate and Gardens in Lenox, Massachusetts). Stunning photographs transport the visitor to the gardens Elizabeth Roys chronicled, many of which exist today only in her notebooks. The exhibition highlights temple, palace, private, working-class, and ruined gardens in all five countries and explores their differing cultural conceptions of the garden. Elizabeth K. Roys’ unique historical accounts constitute a singular and irreplaceable portrait of Asian gardens in the early twentieth century.

The exhibition is available for rental for $2000 for a two-month period (minimum) and $750 for each additional month, plus all shipping expenses. The rental fee includes all panels, framed artwork, and a CD with a PowerPoint presentation showing additional photographs taken by Elizabeth Roys. Text for display labels and signs is provided on disk.

**Exhibition Calendar**


See the exhibit online at [http://www.smith.edu/garden/exhibits/asian_gardens/asian_gardens.html](http://www.smith.edu/garden/exhibits/asian_gardens/asian_gardens.html)

For more information contact:
Madelaine Zadik, Manager of Education and Outreach  
The Botanic Garden of Smith College  
Lyman Plant House, 15 College Lane  
Northampton, MA 01063 USA  
Phone: 413-585-2743, Fax: 413-585-2744  
mzadik@smith.edu
IMAGES OF THE EXHIBITION AT SMITH COLLEGE
General Information about Exhibition Rental

1. **Availability:** Now available
2. **Rental Fee:** $2,000 for a two-month period (minimum) and $750 for each additional month. This includes all panels, framed artwork, display label and sign text file on disk, and a PowerPoint file on disk.
3. **Shipping Costs:** The borrowing institution pays all shipping expenses to and from the borrower.
4. **Insurance:** Insurance value of the exhibition is approximately $14,025, and the borrower is responsible for insurance coverage while the exhibition is under its control (including during shipping).
5. **Security Requirements:**
   
   Security requirements are similar to the “limited security” requirements of SITES (See [www.sites.si.edu/host/security_search.htm#limited](http://www.sites.si.edu/host/security_search.htm#limited)). Personnel must be present at all times in the space while the exhibition is open to the public. Supervision by guard, student, volunteer, or receptionist is acceptable, and they may be performing other duties as well as watching the exhibition. Secure storage for shipping crates is required. The exhibition area must be locked and secure during closed hours. Fire protection must meet all local ordinances.

6. **Space and Equipment Requirements:**
   
   i. Running feet for all the panels is approximately 64 feet, but that doesn’t include any space between panels. At the Botanic Garden at Smith College we used about 95 running feet to display all the panels, artwork, and a computer monitor that was running a PowerPoint presentation on a continuous loop.
   
   ii. The Botanic Garden of Smith College will provide the PowerPoint file. If this is to be shown, a computer, monitor, and electricity will be necessary.

7. **Environmental Requirements:**
   
   i. The exhibition must be displayed indoors.
   
   ii. Direct sunlight must be diffused or eliminated to prevent fading.
   
   iii. None of the panels or artwork may come into contact with heating or ventilation outlets when on display or in storage.
   
   iv. The exhibition space must have humidity and temperature controls to eliminate great fluctuations in either temperature or humidity.

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Exhibition Panel Sizes and Artwork Dimensions

### Photo Display Panels
All panels are printed, laminated, mounted on gatorboard, and in frosted silver metal frames, ready to be hung.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Type of Panel</th>
<th>Size in inches (W × H)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Large Entranceway Photo Panels</td>
<td>34 x 57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Photo Panels</td>
<td>24 x 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Photo Panel</td>
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<td>Photo Panel</td>
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<td>Photo Panel</td>
<td>10 x 6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Photo Panel</td>
<td>10 x 17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Text Display Panels
All panels are printed, laminated, mounted on gatorboard, and in frosted silver metal frames, ready to be hung.

<table>
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<th>Number</th>
<th>Type of Panel</th>
<th>Size in inches (W × H)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Exhibit Credit Panel</td>
<td>20.25 x 42.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Title Panel and Intro Panel</td>
<td>52.25 x 19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Biographical Panel</td>
<td>22.25 x 36.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Biographical Panel</td>
<td>36.25 x 30.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Plant List Panels</td>
<td>18.25 x 11.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Country Panels*</td>
<td>24.25 x 36.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*(each country panel is displayed together with 3 of the matted framed photos for that country - see below)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Matted and Framed Photos
Printed photographs with white mats and black metal frames, ready to be hung.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Type of Panel</th>
<th>Size in inches (W × H)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Matted and Framed Photos*</td>
<td>14 x11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*(5 groups of 3 photos which correspond to each country panel)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Matted and Framed Photos**</td>
<td>14 x11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Matted and Framed Photos**</td>
<td>11 x 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>** (placement is discretionary)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Photo Labels
We will provide a digital file containing the text for the image explanations.
Title Panel

ASIAN GARDENS OF THE 1920s

The Travels of Elizabeth K. Roys

Introductory Panel

Asian Gardens of the 1920s

The Travels of Elizabeth K. Roys

Credit Panel

Asian Gardens of the 1920s

The Travels of Elizabeth K. Roys

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Printed in the United States of America

ISBN: 978-1-234-56789-0

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The Travels of Elizabeth K. Roys
Biographical Panels

A Childhood in China
Elizabeth Kirkland Kuyk was uniquely suited to undertake a study of Asia. She was the daughter of Presbyterian missionaries and spent her early years in China. At the age of 15, she was sent to the United States to study at the new China Medical College, where she excelled in her studies.

As a young woman, she met her future husband, Dr. Roycs, in Asia. They married in China in 1910 and moved to the United States, where Dr. Roycs was appointed professor of anatomy at the new China Medical College. Elizabeth accompanied him on his travels in China, learning the language and culture.

A Botanical Journey and Lifelong Passion
Elizabeth Roycs was a botanical enthusiast and spent much of her life studying and collecting plants. She traveled extensively in China, Japan, and Korea, and her collection of plants and seeds from these regions is now housed in the University of Michigan Botanical Gardens.

Throughout her life, Elizabeth Roycs maintained a strong connection to her Chinese roots and was deeply committed to preserving the culture and history of her adopted homeland.
Asian Gardens of the 1920s: The Travels of Elizabeth K. Roys
Illustrated Lecture Available by Curator Betsy Anderson

Elizabeth K. Roys was a student of botany at Smith College when she embarked on an extensive tour of Asia. From 1926 to 1927, she traveled through Japan, China, Korea, Siam, and India, studying and photographing their gardens and compiling her observations into a collection of five notebooks that have only recently been discovered. Roys’ keenly perceptive chronicle of her journey is richly accompanied by hundreds of her own stunning photographs and numerous hand-drawn plans, many of which will be shared for the first time in a singular slide lecture by exhibit curator Betsy Anderson.

This exploration of Elizabeth Roys’ notebooks and the expedition that inspired them is a perfect complement to the exhibit, Asian Gardens of the 1920s. The talk additionally draws upon remarkable family photographs and correspondence, merging the compelling story of Roys’ life with her fascinating analysis of Asian gardens in the early twentieth century. What inspired this young woman to undertake such a long voyage with such an intense purpose? How did her unique perspective—born in China as a child of missionaries, and always captivated by the natural world—influence the research and writing of these exceptional documents? Which, if any, avenues were open to Roys to continue her work in a field dominated by men, and how did her 1926–27 Asian trip shape the rest of her life? The illustrated program will answer these questions and detail the plants and gardens that Roys so carefully recorded.

Betsy Anderson, Garden Historian at The Mount (Edith Wharton’s Estate and Gardens in Lenox, Massachusetts), has lectured throughout the Northeast on Edith Wharton’s gardens as well as on other outstanding twentieth-century landscapes, including Fletcher Steele’s design of Naumkeag. She directs the garden interpretative programming at The Mount, and in 2006 she organized the first conference devoted to Wharton as a garden designer: its accompanying publication, Edith Wharton and the American Garden, will be available in summer 2007.

Anderson is a 2004 graduate of Smith College with Highest Honors in French Studies; her honors thesis explored the evolution of the seventeenth-century French garden in literature, and like Roys she studied botany and horticulture at Smith’s world-class botanic garden. Having worked and studied on numerous French and English estates, she is now thrilled to present the gardens of Japan, China, Korea, Thailand, and India through the writings, drawings, and photographs of Elizabeth Roys.