



THE FIRST ZEN INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

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Film Series

Lost Treasures of Afghanistan

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Angkor for Sale?

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Friday, March 4, 2016 7:30 – 9:30 PM

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Lost Treasures of Afghanistan details the looting and destruction of Buddhist art treasures by the Taliban, including the giant Buddha statues at Bamiyan. Fanatical members of the Taliban believe that all images are sacrilegious, and go about destroying them with sledge hammers, fire or dynamite. This is a film about courageous Afghans determined to preserve their cultural heritage. Included also is a simulated re-enactment of the visit to Bamiyan and its monumental Buddha statues by the Buddhist pilgrim Xuanzang 1,400 years ago. 56 minutes.

Angkor for Sale discusses the wholesale looting of Cambodia's artistic heritage – a profitable enterprise carried out with direct participation of the Cambodian army. Angkor Wat is one of the world's largest and most magnificent archeological sites, but the cultural heritage of the ancient Khmer empire has been the target of art theft on a massive scale. One statue stolen from a local Cambodian museum ended up in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. This film was screened on location in Cambodia and Bangkok Thailand, where many of the Cambodian antiquities are removed for sale. 53 minutes.

Lost Treasures of Afghanistan is being licensed through Swank Motion Pictures, <http://www.swank.com>. *Angkor for Sale* is being screened courtesy of Kultur Videos, www.kultur.com.

Admission is free.

