

Presents

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**“Reflections of the
Garbhadhātu Maṇḍala at Dunhuang”**

ABSTRACT: To date, much of the scholarship on esoteric Buddhist art at Dunhuang has privileged iconographical elements that are associated with the Vajradhātu Maṇḍala. While there are good reasons for this, what I propose to do in my paper is to consider as well iconographical elements that are associated with the Garbhadhātu Maṇḍala, in particular, those that may be observed in mural and portable paintings dating to the Tang Dynasty. One portion of the Mahāvairocana Sūtra exists from the Dunhuang manuscripts. What I propose, however, is not that there is evidence of a full Garbhadhātu Maṇḍala in Dunhuang of the type seen in Heian Japan, but rather selective assemblages of deities that represent the three families of the Garbhadhātu Maṇḍala.

Thursday, November 10, 4-6 pm

University Hall 122

McMaster University

**“Changing Conceptions of ‘Maṇḍala’ in
Tang China: Ritual and the Role of Images”**

University of Toronto Reading Group Session

Friday, November 11, 3-5 pm

East Asian Studies Department, Robarts Library