



根付 NETSUKE  
WHAT IS A NETSUKE?





## What is a Netsuke - more than a hare with amber eyes?

Discover Netsuke, history, function, material, fascinating subject matter, exotic stories - and of course, how to pronounce it!

The survival of the Ephrussi netsuke collection as the leitmotif of one man's discovery and retelling of his family history has captivated millions. Edmund de Vaal's 'The Hare with Amber Eyes' has rekindled interest in the Japanese netsuke, but it provides scant information on the nature of netsuke: Japanese and part of the fad of Japonisme in 19th century Paris; able to be purchased in large quantities; significant enough to be displayed in a special vitrine; fascinating to the Ephrussi children in their mother's boudoir, but perhaps not important enough to be on display with the Ephrussi art collection; small enough to be smuggled and hidden from the Nazis.

The Japanese netsuke has been regarded in the West as a significant art object and focus for serious collecting activity since the 19th century. Sales records have reached astounding heights. Dedicated clubs, societies and journals abound in the West, and more recently in Japan. Reference material in English outweighs that on any other subject of Japanese art, yet much confusion and lack of knowledge remains.

As an art form, the netsuke has continued into modern times and has captured the creative interest of Western artists.

Internationally recognized netsuke artists, Susan Wraight and Leigh Sloggett live in Melbourne. Susan is the recipient of the inaugural Golden Dragon Award for contemporary netsuke, and both artists have work in leading international museums and the collection of HIH Princess Takamado.

Our one day seminar will answer many questions, provide the opportunity to meet two outstanding artists and discuss their work, and to add to, or begin, a collection of these bewitching art objects.

### Tuesday September 27 2011

- 11:00 Lecture '*Discover Netsuke*' Lesley Kehoe
- 12:00 View Exhibition, questions
- 12:45 Lunch at Heirloom Restuarant and Sushi Bar
- 14:30 Meet the Carvers  
*Presentation by Artists Susan Wraight & Leigh Sloggett*
- 15.30 Japanese Tea & Sweets

**Cost: \$85 (gst inc) per person**

**Booking and payment due by: 13/09/2011**

To make a booking please contact Trevor on 03 9671 4311.

Limited numbers - prompt booking is recommended  
Payments can be made via Cheque, Electronic Transfer or Credit Card  
Visa & Mastercard transactions will incur a 2% service fee  
American Express transactions will incur a 3% service fee  
No refunds for cancellation  
Exhibition pieces for sale and works can be commissioned from the carvers.

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