

Louise Allison Cort

Curator for Ceramics

Louise Cort's interests include historical and contemporary ceramics in Japan, Southeast Asia, and South Asia; Japanese baskets and textiles; and chanoyu in Japan. She is the author of *Shigaraki, Potters' Valley*, published in 1979 and reprinted in 2000. In 2008 she prepared (with George Ashley Williams IV and David P. Rehfuss) the online catalogue *Ceramics in Mainland Southeast Asia: Collections in the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery*. Her research on earthenware in India was published as *Temple Potters of Puri* (with Purna Chandra Mishra, 2012).

Cort's other book-length publications include *Isamu Noguchi and Modern Japanese Ceramics: A Close Embrace of the Earth* (with Bert Winther-Tamaki, 2003), *Asian Traditions in Clay* (with Ann Gunter and Massumeh Farhad, 2000), *A Basketmaker in Rural Japan* (with Nakamura Kenji, 1995), *Joined Colors: Decoration and Meaning in Chinese Porcelain* (with Jan Stuart, 1994), and *Seto and Mino Ceramics* (1992). She was organizer and principal author of *Korean Art in the Freer and Sackler Galleries* (2013). With Andrew Watsky, she prepared the book and exhibition *Chigusa and the Art of Tea* (2014) on the story of the tea-leaf storage jar named Chigusa acquired by the Freer.

In 2012, Cort received the thirty-third Koyama Fujio Memorial Prize for her research on historical and contemporary Japanese ceramics, and the Smithsonian Distinguished Scholar Award.

