



Jimmy Carter Library & Museum **News Release**

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Chinese Grand Master Embroiderer to Demonstrate Extraordinary Artistry

Carter Library Visitors to See How Works of Art Are Created

ATLANTA, GA.- Visitors to the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum will be able to see how exquisite Chinese embroidery is created as Yu Fuzhen, Grand Master of Jiangsu Province demonstrates her extraordinary embroidery technique.

It was Grand Master Yu who embroidered the world famous double-sided “Kitten” embroidery that was given as a State Gift to President Richard Nixon in the 1976 and she is believed to have created the “Kitten” embroidery given to President Carter in 1979.

The embroidery demonstrations will be in the Carter Presidential Museum at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Friday, February 25 and at 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 26. The demonstrations are included in the normal museum admission price.

“Hand to Hand: Two Grand Masters of Suzhou Embroidery” is on display at the Carter Library and Museum through June 11th. The exhibition includes 32 pieces of exquisite embroidery by two of China’s Grand Master artist, Gu Wenxia and Yu Fuzhen. Master Gu and Master Yu are the artists who created the double-sided “Kitten” embroidery that was given to President Nixon and are believed to have also created the double-sided embroideries given to Presidents Carter and Bush.

The detail in the works is extraordinary. The embroiderers take a silk thread and divide it into 48 strands. Strands of different shades are twisted together and embroidered into the silk fabric. As a result, some of the embroideries take on a different appearance depending on the direction from which they are viewed.

A centuries old Chinese tradition is to copy famous paintings with embroidery. Visitors will recognize the works of famous painters as they walk through the exhibit. The pieces include landscapes, portraits, flowers and animals.

These magnificent works of art came to the Carter Presidential Library directly from China. When the exhibition ends, they will return to China. The Carter Presidential Library and Museum is the only venue outside of China to display these works.

The exhibition runs from February 19 through June 11. There is no additional admission to see “Hand to Hand.” Admission to the museum is \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors (60+), military and students with ID. Those 16 and under are always free.