

*Anne Alene*  
*Biography*



ANNE ALENE



Anne Alene is an independent scholar of art history, curating trips to Japan and around the world on behalf of leading art museums and their directors, curators, development teams, boards of trustees and benefactors.

Born and raised on the North Shore of Chicago, Anne did undergraduate studies in Asian Studies and Japanese, and was awarded numerous scholarships including one-year tuition to study at Nanzan University in Nagoya, Japan. She was then chosen by the Japanese government to live and work for three years in Japan on the JET Program as a civil servant, and was immersed in developing programs that facilitated international exchange and understanding. Anne returned to the US to work as Cultural Affairs Officer for the Consulate General of Japan in San Francisco, interfacing with museums, arts organizations and curating art exhibitions about Japan for the public.

With a desire to serve as a bridge between cultures, Anne began leading cultural immersion programs to Japan in 1997, and then soon discovered the joy of connecting museum institutions with the best access and experiences of Japan's art world and culture. She has become a leading travel program developer for some of the world's foremost museum institutions, including Art Institute of Chicago, Getty Research Institute, Royal Academy of Arts, Solomon R Guggenheim Museum, Smithsonian Freer Sackler Gallery, Tate Museum, and Vancouver Art Gallery.

Anne holds a Master of Arts in Art History, Criticism and Conservation, and served as teaching assistant under prominent Japan scholar and advisor Dr. Kendall Brown. Her graduate thesis presented the influences of Western theory in the projects of Japanese modernist architect, Seiichi Shirai, and her graduate research includes Japanese aesthetics in contemporary art, the Italian Renaissance, and the reception of Western art in Japan. Anne is an advanced student of Omotesenke tea ceremony and speaks, reads and writes fluently in Japanese. As she curates art trips to Japan and throughout the world, her aim is to advise museum institutions, collectors and philanthropists on revitalizing communities through art and architecture. Anne also aspires to do doctoral research pertaining to Japan's pre-modern renaissance that resulted in a unique aesthetic language, and about how site-specific art and architectural installation is contributing to a contemporary renaissance in regional Japan.

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