

NEWSLETTER



Baikoen Bonsai Kenkyukai

Jason Chan

Literati style Juniper Workshop

Thursday, April 21, 2022, 7:00pm

Bamboo Room

Arboretum of Los Angeles County

301 North Baldwin Avenue

Arcadia, CA 91007

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Please bring something for the raffle

April Demonstrator ~ Jason Chan, April 21, 2022

Jason Chan is the owner and operator of Eastern Leaf, www.easternleaf.com, a bonsai retail and on-line store, carrying a wide variety of bonsai supplies and trees located nearby in Chino, California. Jason will do workshop on a Prostrata juniper in the Literati, or Bunjin style. The **literati style** of **bonsai** is meant to show the essence of a tree. This **style** has long flowing, often contorted trunk line, with branches reduced to a minimum. Jason will bring several trees to the meeting for people to work on, then the trees will be raffled off. Please **bring your tools and wire** to work on the trees. It will be fun!!! Come to the meeting and see if you will win the raffled tree that you worked on.

Here are some examples of the literati style.



March Demonstrator ~ Jason Saito



Thanks Jason for a super great workshop!

Download an excellent article about saikei at <https://bit.ly/3qbjhBC>. This article gives information of the history, practice, supplies, recipe for all soils and muck, suppliers, and educational resources.



At our March meeting we were privileged to have Jason Saito as the featured demonstrator. BUT he didn't just do a demo, he directed two teams of people to create two different saikei arrangements, which were then donated to the raffle. A lot of fun and everyone had their fingers in the dirt, rocks, and plants.

These arrangements are not trivial. You can see that there are many components and decisions to make.



You can see that Jason setup two stations for each team to work. Both stations were the same but had different kinds of rocks and the primary tree was either a juniper or boxwood. Incredible organized and planned with a lot of choices for us to make, he didn't forget a thing. On the left, gray/white one is Seiryu stone from AB Bonsai/GPS and on the right tufa rocks. Tufa rocks are lighter in weight but may not support weight of more rocks on top and if they get wet, it may disintegrate. Seiryu stone are heavy and may change color (get darker) after treatment with muriatic acid. Seiryu stones are about \$1/pound or the darker colored one is about \$2/lb.



First step is the selection of stones. Look for interesting shapes and forms, to make a rock arrangement. Redford Hunt and Nate Andersen look at rocks



Visualize. You want to make an arrangement that looks good from all angles (but also has a front) and also forms a overall triangle in shape with the rocks. Stones can also be glued together in groups or on top of another. To glue stones together, mortar mix or Portland cement, is sprinkled where two sides of the stones fit together, then super glue



Adding mortar with a straw

(Starbond EM-02 Super Fast Thin from Amazon) is dropped on top, then another layer of mortar, then super glue, alternating in layers to



Drops of Super Glue onto the mortar



form a strong bond to glue the stones together. But in this case, there was a problem. The glue (it needs



to be stored in the fridge) didn't work (it wouldn't stick) so there was a change in plans. The rock arrangements had to be simplified and no rocks could be glued together. Lots more choices and rearranging of rocks and plants. After the racks were arranged to their liking, muck was used to pack in and lock in the rock placement (top left) by Dustin and Charleen. Then the third group of people came in to work on arranging the plants. You can see on the left that Greg and Johan have taken the plants out of the pots and are



trimming the roots to fit the space. Add potting soil and working it into the roots with chop sticks, fitting accent plants in different places. You can see the everyone got into the act and added their part to arrangement. Michael Roberts, Mike Kelly, Doyle, Gus and Bryan all contributed. Lots of great interaction among everyone so it made the meeting extra fun.



Above you can see Dustin working and even Doyle was doing his part to complete the arrangement. Jason was busy going to each station to give suggestions and pointers for arrangements and what to do next.

Jason brought several trays of collected moss, really nice moss. He showed us how to remove excess soil from the bottom and then to roll the edges of the pad of moss



toward the bottom so that it was a rounded form and also to make different sizes, and if you look later at the finished saikei, you can see how this contributes toward

looking like a native natural scene. Above right, one of the saikei with tufa rocks with just the plants arranged waiting for moss.





Proud winners Dustin Shang and Charleen Leong won and worked on this saikei. They did the muck part.



And Nate Andersen was the lucky winner of the other arrangement. He too worked on this one which was a lucky coincidence for both winners.

Thank you, Jason, for all the patience, suggestions, plants, handouts and all your organizational skills in getting all the materials together for us to make saikei. A video of this meeting can be found at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qx-bkjTepsY>

Bonsai-A-Thon at The Huntington April 2-3, 2022



Helen Barrett still has some pots, stands and books available for sale. Please contact her between 9am to 3pm at 626-445-4529.

Baikoen t-shirts still available, \$20 for members. Please contact Shirley for size availability and I can bring to the meeting.

Cookie / Snack sign-up for the March meeting.

Refreshments by Shirley Quan, Robert Hoogeveen, Mitch Fennell and Joe Galgoul. Thank you for signing up.



Announcements

San Diego Bonsai Club Bus Trip, April 23, 2022. \$25/person plus \$3 tip/person for the driver. Be at the parking lot by 9:45am, at the LA Arboretum overflow parking lot, leave at 10am. Arrive at 12:30pm at Balboa Park. Dinner at 5:30pm, provided by San Diego Bonsai club. Bring desserts to club dinner. Raffle/auction after dinner. Return to bus at 8:30 for trip back. Return to Arboretum at 11:00pm. Reserve bus seat by paying \$10 or more deposit. A maximum of 30 people/bus. Contact Lindsay if you want to go, by April 16, 2022. You may pay with Square. <https://square.link/u/fnG8E5S3> this is for a \$10 deposit

<https://square.link/u/DRvi1uci> This is for the full payment of \$25 plus \$3 tip for the driver

Room 101, Balboa Park, San Diego. Beautiful Bonsai will be on display. Bonsai of various sizes and species as well as other bonsai-related items will be for sale by club members at attractive prices. Bonsai Technique Demonstrations each day 11:00 am & 1:00 pm. For more information, www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

May 28 – 30, 2022, Santa Anita Bonsai Society 56th Annual Bonsai Show, LA
Arboretum, Ayres Hall, 9am-4:30pm. exhibit, sales table, demonstrations. For more information, please check web site, www.sabonsai.org

November 12-13, 2022. Pacific Bonsai Expo, The Bridge Yard, Oakland, California, The Pacific Bonsai Expo is a juried exhibition featuring 70 outstanding bonsai displays and a selection of the community's top vendors. Jurors Bjorn Bjorholm, Ryan Neil, and William N. Valavanis will select the trees. Tree submission period from February 1 to April 30, 2022. For more information, www.pacificbonsaiexpo.com.

A Message from the California Shohin Society. Sorry to say that the Shohin Seminar 2022 has been postponed until February 3-5, 2023.

The meetings will continue to be recorded live and zoomed by Tom. Here is the link to join the meeting

<https://worldvision.zoom.us/j/6843230936>
Zoom meeting

Tom's videos: If you have missed any of the weekly videos that Tom has produced, here is the link to view all of them.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7fXUS6h9DwoBFfhagik-wA>

2022 Important Dates

April 21, 2022

Jason Chan

May 19, 2022

Yannick Kiggen, CBS Artist

June 16, 2022	Peter Macasieb
July 21, 2022	Jose Rodríguez, CBS Artist
August 18, 2022	No Meeting
September 15, 2022	Jack Reynolds
October 20, 2022	Lindsay Shiba
November 17, 2022	Caroline Scott, CBS Artist
December 2022	Happy Holidays