Dr. Ning received his Ph.D. in Art History Studies from Harvard University in 1997. Professor Ning has taught at Yale University, San Diego State University, the University of Michigan, and Connecticut College since graduating from Harvard. He just moved to Beijing in summer 2016 and took the position as Distinguished Professor of Art and Archaeology at Capital Normal University. In addition to more than 30 research papers, Professor Ning has published 3 books on the art and archaeology of the Silk Road and a catalogue of his own paintings. Currently, he is working on two research projects, one on the trans-culture visual imaginations of paradise and the other on the pictorial history of Chinese women, while continuing to create his own artworks.

The legendary Silk Road often fascinates us with its exotic life styles, vanished religions, and archaeological discoveries. Dr. Ning’s presentation aims to reveal the secrecy of mythical rituals on death, divinity, food, wealth, and political legitimacy by examining the 12th century painting, sculpture and architecture remaining in a newly discovered artificial cave in the Chinese northwestern desert. The interplay of art, religion, and politics will be discussed in the context of cultural exchanges between the Tangut nation (Xixia), Tibet and Song dynasty China.

Dr. Qiang Ning,
Distinguished Professor of
Art and Archaeology,
Capital Normal University, China

4:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 3, 2016
2028 Brown Hall

“Art, Ritual, and Secret Space on the Silk Road”

Open to the public free of charge.

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