

## **Buddhist Visual Literacy: The Bodhisattva Ideal Throughout Asian Art**

**On Zoom: Thursdays, March 3 – April 28**

**Teacher: Stephanie Johnston**

Offered by Nitartha Institute and Nalandabodhi Seattle

### **Core Classes:**

Six core classes explore the foundation of BVL and apply its framework to the awakening and awakened qualities manifest in the great bodhisattvas. These six classes constitute the course's core and are suitable for those with an interest in the Buddhist path, symbolism, iconography, Buddhist art history, and with an inquisitive bent towards the riddle of living.

March 3 & 10 – Definition and application of BVL. Development of the bodhisattva ideal, its meaning and intention, cultural expressions, and the impact of its imagery.

March 24 & 31 – Experiencing and analyzing images of the great bodhisattvas.

April 14 & 21 – Using symbolism & iconography to awaken and express wisdom, compassion, & power.

### **Supplementary Classes:**

Three supplementary classes enhance the core presentations using Kagyu and Nyingma shedra studies, such as those offered by Nitartha Institute. In particular, we will dig into the core class themes using teachings on seeming and ultimate realities, valid cognition, buddha nature, paths and bhūmis, and clear thinking.

March 17 – The paradox and path of discerning and communicating seeming and ultimate reality through symbols.

April 7 & 28 – Drawing out the meaning of bodhisattva imagery using valid cognition and applied clear thinking (ACT).

### ***Spring Time Change Differs by Country, Please Note the Following:***

#### **EU**

CET 6-7:30 pm (March 3-24) then 6-7:30 pm CEST (March 31 – April 28)

#### **Canada & USA**

Pacific 9-10:30am, except Mar 17 and 24 class time is 10-11:30am

Mountain 10-11:30am, except Mar 17 and 24 class time is 11am-12:30pm

Eastern 12 noon-1:30pm, except Mar 17 and 24 class time is 1-2:30pm

Atlantic 1-2:30pm, except Mar 17 and 24 class time is 2-3:30pm

#### **Mexico, Cuernavaca**

11am-12:30pm, except Mar 31