

RASTI CHINESE ART

Works of Art

古玩珍品

2019



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INTRODUCTION

This autumn, we feature thirty-two objects in varying materials, from bone and ivory to jade and coco de mer, to highlight the boundless ingenuity of Chinese art.

Animal bone and ivory have been used from time immemorial to make utilitarian or decorative ritual objects. This was particularly so in China during the Shang period (1600–1046 BCE). Many objects from this time share designs similar to those found on jade carvings and bronze vessels. One such example is a green-stained bone *jue*, or tripod vessel (no. 4). The *jue* form is rarely found in this material, and is most often made of bronze. The finely carved details on this piece can be also found on bronze vessels. From the subsequent Western Zhou period is a ritual jade *cong* (no. 7) of plain form typical of this time. However, it was enhanced through burial when it acquired glorious hues of mottled yellow, red and olive-brown tones.

We include three archaic jades with impeccable provenance from an English collection. One is a mottled dark-and pale-grey jade plaque (no. 8) previously owned by the celebrated collector W. W. Winkworth (1897–1991) and later purchased from a 1980 London auction. This unusual and superbly carved object possibly decorated a sword owned by a person of high rank or was placed across the chest of the owner. Although it has a shape similar to that of a chape, it differs in its concaved back. It is closely related to a piece in the National Palace Museum in Taipei, which the curators describe as a decorative panel. The carving details on our example are typical of the Western Han period (206 BCE–24).

Song period (960–1279) jade carvings are a mainstay of objects offered by this dealership. A Southern Song (1127–1279) cylindrical ‘dragons and phoenix’ vase presumably used for burning incense (no. 12) was included in the seminal 1975 Victoria and Albert Museum exhibition ‘Chinese Jade Throughout the Ages’. Delicate yet powerful, its carving style pays homage to earlier designs from the Han period (206 BCE–220). It also comes from the W. W. Winkworth Collection and was previously owned by Dr and Mrs Peter Plesch (1918–2013). The lotus cup with finely defined deep russet inclusions (no. 13) from a private European collection is similar to other well-documented pieces in the National Palace Museum in Taipei and the Victoria and Albert Museum. A rather unusual example is the softly polished and subtly carved white jade water pot in the form of a goose with its neck extended (no. 10). It is reminiscent of Song jade carvings of geese, such as a yellow example in the National Palace Museum in Taipei.

A beautiful and elegant rock-crystal robe weight in the form of a *bi* (no. 11) represents the refined taste of the Song literati. As clear as glass, the simple disc mesmerizes with its subtle cloud inclusions. A number of similar rock-crystal discs were unearthed in tombs all over China. One such disc from a Song dynasty tomb in Taizhou, Zhejiang province has its original cord attached, suggesting that these decorative objects, hung from belts, served the purpose of weighing down lightweight fabrics such as silk.

A Yuan dynasty (1271–1368) jade stem cup (no. 16) is from a private English collection but was previously in the Dr and Mrs Peter Plesch Collection. Stem cups, a form typical of this period, are often found in bronze and porcelain. Another Yuan example, a thinly formed plain jade bowl (no. 15) with an unusual foot, can be compared to one in the National Palace Museum in Taipei. Our bowl has russet speckles and is from the collection of the Swedish academic Emil Hultmark (1872–1943), who cofounded the Kinaklubben, or ‘China Club’, in Stockholm in the 1920s with Carl Kempe (1884–1967) and Crown Prince Gustav Adolf (1906–1947).

Part of the Hultmark Collection is now housed alongside the Swedish Royal collection in the Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities in Stockholm.

We highlight a group of coco de mer objects, an esoteric category of Chinese art. Coco de mer was used to make various items such as drinking cups and was occasionally used to furniture. One such example is a *huanghuali*-and-coco de mer seal chest (no. 23). Great care has been taken to cut and inlay the pieces to create the ‘cracked ice’ pattern seen on porcelain. Similar furnishings from the Hongzhi period (1487–1505) can be found in the Palace Museum in Beijing.

Lastly, we present three imperial hardstone objects. The first, a yellow jade vase group with its original stand (no. 30) from an important Taiwanese collection is of a rarely seen pure yellow tone. The second is an unusually large and clear rock-crystal *kundika* or ‘water sprinkler’ with gilt-copper mounts (no. 29). The dragon carving, of the highest quality and with a staggering depth of relief, was undoubtedly produced by a top craftsman. It was likely ordered from the imperial workshops as a gift to a high-ranking official in Nepal, who then added the gilt-copper mounted. In addition to marital alliances and religious beliefs, the Qing (1644–1911) emperors consolidated their authority through tributary relations. Thus, objects given as tribute often displayed unique characteristics and a cultural context.

There are few extant examples of mountains carved out of turquoise and not many have passed through our hands over the years. In the mid-2000s, one with its original boxwood stand was sold by Knapton Rasti Asian Art to a private American collection. In this exhibition, we offer an unusually vibrant blue-and-green turquoise mountain (no. 28), bearing a four-character inscription reading *wansong diecui* or ‘myriad pines in layers of greenery’. Its carving is also of imperial quality and similar to one in the British Museum and another in the Augustus L. Serle (1863–1955) Collection at the Minneapolis Museum of Art.

Nader Rasti
Pedram Rasti

- 1 商 骨鳥佩
A bone pendant in the form of a bird with short wings and long tail

China: Shang Dynasty (1600-1100 BCE)
Length: 3 1/4 in (8.3 cm)

- 2 商 骨饕餮紋柄
A deep-green stained bone handle carved with a *taotie* head beneath geometric designs and triangular lappets, the reverse with incised archaic characters

China: Shang Dynasty (1600-1100 BCE)
Length: 4 1/4 in (10.8 cm)

For designs of Shang dynasty bone carvings see The Oriental Ceramic Society, *Transactions of the Oriental Ceramic Society, 1951-53, vol. 27*, pl. 9 (nos. 1-2); for bone spatulas see Mayuyama, Junkichi, *Mayuyama, Seventy Years, Volume Two*, p. 33, nos. 40-41.

- 3 商 骨饕餮紋柄
A green-stained bone handle carved with two panels of *taotie* heads beneath geometric designs and triangular lappets, the reverse with incised archaic characters

China: Shang Dynasty (1600-1100 BCE)
Length: 6 1/4 in (15.9 cm)

For designs of Shang dynasty bone carvings from tomb 1001 in Anyang, see Kao, ed. *Chinese Ivories from the Kwan Collection*, pp. 35-36, pls E and G; for a large bone section of similar design see Spink & Son Ltd, *Ivories of China and the East*, no. 134; and for a bone fragment of similar design see Mueller, *The Sunghin Collection of Chinese Art and Archaeology, Peking*, p. 95, pl. XXXIX, coll. no. H-810.



商 骨饗饗紋爵

4

A green-stained bone *jue*, the tripod vessel with wide flaring mouth on three rounded triangular feet, carved to the body with a *taotie* head and two bands of key-frets between circular borders and triangular lappets to the neck, one foot incised with two archaic characters

China: Shang Dynasty (1600-1100 BCE)

Height: 5 1/2 in (14 cm)

For numerous Shang dynasty bone fragments with similar designs see Siren, *Ars Asiatica: VII Documents d'Art Chinois de la Collection Osvald Siren*, pls XXVII, XXVIII and XXIX.



5

鄂爾多斯 公元前3|1世紀 骨鏤雕羊鳥花勺

An Ordos green-stained bone spoon pendant carved in openwork with a ram terminal above stylised birds/heads and floral motifs

China: Northern China or Inner Mongolia (3rd|1st century BCE)

Length: 6 1/4 in (16 cm)

For a bronze spoon pendant from the 6th-5th century BCE see Rawson and Bunker, *Ancient Chinese and Ordos Bronzes*, pp. 312-313, pl. 194; and for another see Siren, *Ars Asiatica: VII Documents d'Art Chinois de la Collection Osvald-Siren*, pl. LVIII, no. 652.



6

宋|西夏 骨雕人物殘部

A bone fragment carved in relief with two seated figures flanked by two standing attendants above floral motifs, with two circular apertures for attachment

China: Song|Xi Xia Dynasty (1038-1227)

Width: 2 3/4 in (7 cm)

For a very similar Song/Xi Xia dynasty bamboo fragment found Ningxia in the royal tomb of Li Zunxu (1162-1226) see Kao, ed. *Chinese Ivories from the Kwan Collection*, p. 42, pl. E (2), and p. 51.



西周 褐黃綠玉琮

7 A mottled deep russet, yellow and olive jade *cong*, the square exterior enclosing a circular aperture, the stone with bright orange-russet inclusions

China: Western Zhou (1100-771 BCE)

Width: 2 7/8 in (7.3 cm)

Provenance 來源: Private Taiwan collection 台灣私人收藏

For a similar jade *cong* from the same period see *Illustrated Catalogue of Ancient Jade Artifacts in the National Palace Museum*, p. 34, no. 47, and a disc of similar mottled tones in the same publication, p. 27, no. 40; for a similar jade *cong* see Dohrenwend, *Chinese Jades in the Royal Ontario Museum*, p. 45, coll. no. 927.19.146; and three further see The Palace Museum, ed., *Compendium of Collections in the Palace Museum: Jade, vol. 1, Neolithic Age*, p. 207, no. 202, p. 208, no. 203 and p. 210, no. 205; For a Eastern Zhou/Warring States period mottled jade *cong* see Knapton Rasti Asian Art, *November 2010*, no. 3; and for a jade *lezi* from the western Zhou period with similar colour tones see Knapton Rasti Asian Art, *March 2007*, pp. 2-3, no. 1.



西漢 灰褐玉龍牌

- 8 A mottled cream, pale grey and russet jade plaque carved in high relief with a coiled dragon with its head turned onto its back, the beast with snarling expression, twisted winged body and long bushy tail flicked to one side, on a partially openwork and shaped convex fitting, the dragon's leg disappearing through scrolling cloud and angular motifs with raised *taotie* heads and scroll-form terminals, the concave reverse similarly lightly carved with the dragon's body partially reappearing and striding forward within similar *taotie* and animal heads, the details superbly defined

China: Western Han Dynasty (206 BCE-9 CE)

Length: 3 1/8 in (8 cm)

Width: 2 5/8 in (6.7 cm)

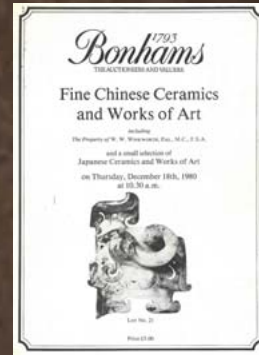
Provenance 來源: Private English collection 英國私人收藏

Bonhams London, 18 December 1980, lot 21 (frontispiece)

倫敦邦翰斯·1980年12月18日·編號21 (內封面)

W.W. Winkworth Collection (1897-1991)

W.W.溫克沃思 (1897-1991) 收藏



For a similarly formed jade plaque with dragons see *Illustrated Catalogue of Ancient Jade Artifacts in the National Palace Museum*, p. 87, no. 153; another in yellow jade see Lu, *Zhongguo Yuqi Quanji*, vol. 4, p. 12, pl. 17; for a jade plaque see *Treasures of Cultural Relics in Jiangsu*, pl. 11; and another see Fu, *Guyu Jingying, The Art of Jade Carving in Ancient China*, p. 179, no. 94; for a similarly designed chape in the Aurora Museum see Liang, *Jades of Han Dynasty*, p. 275, no. 200; for two sword *bi*-discs see The Palace Museum, ed., *Compendium of Collections in the Palace Museum: Jade*, vol. 4, *Han, Wei, Jin, Southern and Northern Dynasties*, pp. 80-81, nos. 67, and 82-83, no. 68; and a further jade ornament from the Han dynasty see The Palace Museum, ed., *The Complete Collection of Treasures of the Palace Museum Jewellery (II)*, p. 234, no. 195.



宋 白玉扳指

9 A white jade archer's ring, of circular form with gently ribbed shoulder before the spreading section to one side, the softly polished stone of even white tone

China: Song Dynasty (960-1279)

Length: 1 1/2 in (3.8 cm)

For a similar white jade ring see The Palace Museum, ed., *Compendium of Collections in the Palace Museum: Jade, vol. 5, Tang, Song, Liao, Jin and Yuan Dynasties*, p. 185, pl. 210.



10

宋 白玉鵝形水丞

A white jade waterpot in the form of a goose, the bird with the neck extended forward and head turned slightly up, the sides of the vessel detailed with the wings and underside webbed feet, the softly polished stone of even tone with three russet streaks

China: Song Dynasty (960-1279)

Length: 4 1/8 in (10.5 cm)

For a yellow jade duck with similar extended neck from the Song dynasty see Feng, ed. *Masterworks of Chinese Jade in the National Palace Museum*, pl. 22.



11 南宋 水晶璧

A rock crystal robe weight in the form of a *bi*-disc, the pure thickly formed stone highly polished and of clear tone with a subtle cloud inclusion

China: Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279)

Diameter: 2 1/4 in (5.7cm).

Thickness: 1/2 in (1.3cm)

For an almost identical rock crystal robe weight in the form of a *bi*-disc with original silk cord from the Southern Song period see *Treasures of Zhejiang: Tales Told by 100 Selected Cultural Relics*, pp. 232-233, pl. 72; and for a rock crystal see Cai, *Dynastic Renaissance: Art and Culture of the Southern Song, Antiquities*, p. 221, pl. 89.



南宋 青玉雕龍鳳壺

12

A pale celadon jade vase in the form of a ewer, of cylindrical tubular form, carved in high relief with two *qilong* dragons, one clambering on the back of the second to reach the lip of the vessel with its head turned to look behind, forming the 'spout', the second *qilong* dragon coiled downwards and gazing up at a third *guei* dragon clambering up on the other side of the vase and looking below at a phoenix head protruding from just below the rim forming the 'handle', all above cloud scrolls and a rounded triangular shallow foot, the well-polished stone with areas of grey speckles

China: Southern Song Dynasty (1128-1279), fitted stand with collection label
Height: 4 ³/₄ in (12.1 cm)

Provenance 來源: Private English collection 英國私人收藏
Dr & Mrs Peter H. Plesch Collection (1918-2013) no. HU12
彼德H.普雷施博士伉儷收藏 (1918-2013) 編號HU12

Published 出版: Rawson and Ayers, *Chinese Jades Throughout the Ages*, p. 99, no. 318 and pls 318a and 318b



13

宋 褐青蓮形玉杯

A pale celadon and deep russet jade cup in the form of an open lotus, the well-hollowed vessel naturalistically defined and carved in relief with further lotus pads, pods and flowers, two pads and one pod in russet tone, extending from the stalks to form the handle with a further open lotuses forming the base, the translucent stone with brown streaks and patches

China: Song Dynasty (960-1279)

Length: 4 3/4 in (12.1 cm)

Provenance 來源: Private European collection 歐洲私人收藏

For a similar white jade lotus cup dated 12th to 14th century see Cai, *Dynastic Renaissance: Art and Culture of the Southern Song, Antiquities*, pp. 198-199, pl. 70; in the same publication see a lotus 'water dish', pp. 200-201, pl. 71; for a yellow jade lotus form brushwasher see Rasti Chinese Art, *October 2014: Works of Art*, pp. 28-29, no. 22; and for a Song dynasty white jade lotus washer in the Victoria & Albert Museum see Clunas, 'Object of the Month', *Chinese Jade: Selected articles from Orientations 1983-1996*, pp. 31-33.



14

宋|元 11|13世紀 褐青雙螭龍把方形玉杯

A mottled celadon and deep russet jade two-handled cup of square form, the handles formed of two sinuous *qilong* clambering over the rim, a third *qilong* carved in relief beneath to one panel and another mythical beast of angular form in relief to the other panel picked out in russet, the base with a recessed foot, the calcified stone with brown streaks

China: Song|Yuan Dynasty, 11th|13th century
Width: 4 1/4 in (10.8 cm)

Provenance 來源: Important Private Taiwan collection 重要台灣私人收藏

For a rhyton with similar colour tones of jade see *Illustrated Catalogue of Ancient Jade Artifacts in the National Palace Museum*, p. 196, no. 358; and a rounded cup with similar handles in the National Museum of China see *Zhongguo Gudai Yuqi Yishu*, pp. 400-403.



中國或中亞 元 青玉碗

15

A pale celadon jade bowl of thinly worked rounded sides and gentle everted rim, supported on a short splayed foot and slightly concave base, the stone with russet speckles and hues

China or Central Asia: Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368)

Diameter: 5 ³/₄ in (14.7 cm)

Provenance 來源: Emil Hultmark Collection (1872-1943)

埃米爾•霍特馬克 (1872-1943) 收藏

Bluett & Sons, London 倫敦 Bluett & Sons

For a similar thinly worked shallow bowl with a slightly concave base see Deng, *Treasures from Across the Kunlun Mountains: Islamic Jades in the National Palace Museum Collection*, p. 69, no. 024; for further examples see p. 67, no. 022 and p. 74, no. 034 in the same publication; and for a Song dynasty grey jade bowl see Nott, *Chinese Jade Throughout the Ages*, pl. XXXII (right hand side image).



元 高足玉杯

A small creamy jade stemcup, the bowl carved with gently rounded sides rising to an everted rim, resting on a flaring foot with raised rim, below a further raised horizontal band to the body, the exterior of the vessel with scattered brown/russet flecks, the interior of the bowl with more intense speckling

China: Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368), with original fitted lacquered wood box mounted with foliate silver handles and lock, the interior lined in silk

Diameter: 4 $\frac{3}{8}$ in (11 cm)

Height: 3 in (7.6 cm)

Provenance 來源: Private English collection 英國私人收藏

Dr & Mrs Peter H. Plesch Collection (1918-2013) no. JK11

彼德H.普雷施博士伉儷收藏 (1918-2013) 編號JK11

For a gilt-bronze stemcup from the Yuan dynasty see Bluett & Sons, 1988, *Oriental Art*; for an early Ming celadon jade stemcup previously in the collection of Gerald Godfrey see Foster, *Chinese Jade: The Image from Within*, p. 46, no. 75; another early Ming grey-green jade stemcup see Nott, *Chinese Jade Throughout the Ages*, pl. XXXII (left hand side image); and for a Yongle period sweet white glazed porcelain stembowl with its original lacquer box see Knapton Rasti Asian Art, *November 2004*, cover illustration and pp. 38-39, no. 42.



17

元|明 14|15世紀 白玉鏤雕梅松鹿璧

A white jade reticulated *bi*-disc, deeply carved in openwork with two deer among prunus, pine, lotus branches and *lingzhi* sprays above rockwork and simulated stream to one side

China: Yuan|Ming Dynasty, 14|15th century

Diameter: 4 ⁷/₈ in (12.5 cm)

Provenance 來源: Private English collection 英國私人收藏

Richard Drew Collection (1938-2017) 理查•德魯 (1938-2017) 收藏

For a Yuan dynasty white jade reticulated *bi*-disc carved with phoenix and flowers see The Palace Museum, ed., *Compendium of Collections in the Palace Museum: Jade, vol. 5, Tang, Song, Liao, Jin and Yuan Dynasties*, pp. 272-273, pl. 308; the same example is also illustrated in Zhou, et. al., *The Complete Collection of Treasures of the Palace Museum: Jade ware (III)*, p. 159, pl. 131; and again in Yang, ed., *Zhongguo Yuqi Quanji*, p. 114, no. 172.



18

明 17世紀 灰黑玉桃形「五福」水洗

A grey and black jade brushwasher in the form of a large peach carved with five bats in flight among fruiting peach branches, the leafy tendrils forming the base, the stone with black, grey and russet inclusions

China: Ming Dynasty, 17th century

Length: 7 ⁵/₈ in (19.5 cm)

Provenance 來源: Important Private Taiwan collection 重要台灣私人收藏

Gerard Arnhold Collection (1918-2010) 傑拉德•阿諾德 (1918-2010) 收藏

For a chicken bone jade peach-form brushwasher with bats see Knapton Rasti Asian Art, *Chinese Works of Art*, October 2013, p. 39, no. 26.



19

明 17世紀 德化瓷高足杯

A Dehua cream glazed stembowl, the vessel with gently rising sides to flaring rim on a spreading foot, the body and foot each with a single horizontal band on a plain ground

China: Ming Dynasty, 17th century

Diameter: 5 1/8 in (13 cm)

Height: 4 1/2 in (11.5 cm)

Provenance 來源: Private English collection 英國私人收藏

For a 17th century Dehua stemcup see Donnelly, *Blanc de Chine*, pl. 35 (c) (right hand side image).



晚期 16|17世紀 海椰殼盤

A coco de mer circular dish carved to the exterior with oval quatrefoil cartouches containing coiled dragons on grounds of cloud-scrolls, interspersed with further cloud-scrolls, all on a ground of cracked-ice pattern, the underside with a further coiled dragon on cloud-scroll ground within a wide band of cracked-ice pattern, the interior in red lacquer, the shell of dark-brown tone covered with a layer of lacquer

China: late Ming Dynasty, 16|17th century
Diameter: 8 ³/₄ in (22.2 cm)

For a similarly carved coco de mer box and cover from the Edward T. Chow Collection see Chow, *One Man's Taste: Treasures from the Lakeside Pavilion*, p. 30, no. W20; for an incense box see The Palace Museum, ed., *The Complete Collection of Treasures of the Palace Museum: Bamboo, Wood, Ivory and Rhinoceros Horn Carvings*, p. 95, pl. 87; and a bowl in the same publication, p. 97, pl. 89.



明晚期 16|17世紀 海椰殼雕盤龍盤

21

A coco de mer circular dish carved to the exterior with a continuous band of four coiled dragons among cloud-scrolls within bands of geometric designs and lappets, the base with carved sealmark within a double-circle, the shell of dark-brown tone, the interior lined with silver

China: late Ming Dynasty, 16|17th century
Diameter: 8 in (20.3 cm)

For a similarly carved pair of coco de mer *weiqi* boxes see Suzhou Museum Redact, *Handicraft Works Collected by Suzhou Museum*, pp. 136-137; for a circular box and cover see *The Precious Arts and Crafts of Ming and Qing Dynasties*, 1981, no. 182; and the same box is also illustrated in The Palace Museum, ed., *The Complete Collection of Treasures of the Palace Museum: Bamboo, Wood, Ivory and Rhinoceros Horn Carvings*, p. 96, pl. 88.



清康熙 海椰殼雕盤龍筆筒

22

A coco de mer brushpot of circular form, carved in relief with a continuous band of three coiled dragons incorporated into cloud-scrolls and lotus sprays, the shell encasing a pewter lining to the rim, interior and base, the rim incised with a band of key-frets, lotus, prunus sprays and rockwork

China: Kangxi (1662-1722)

Height: 4 ⁵/₈ in (11.8 cm)

Diameter: 4 ³/₄ in (12.1 cm)



清康熙 黃花梨鑲海椰殼印箱

A *huanghuali* and coco de mer shell-inlaid seal chest, of rectangular form, the wood framing each panel with numerous coconut shell inlaid pieces forming a cracked-ice pattern, the detachable front panel with a further rectangular section with inset rectangular border panel above a *ruyi*-head ivory inlay matching the metal handle, the interior fitted with one shelf and in deep-brown lacquer

China: Kangxi (1662-1722)

Width: 15 ³/₄ in (40 cm)

Height: 15 in (38.1 cm)

Depth: 9 ⁵/₈ in (24.5 cm)

For a coco de mer low table with similar designs from the Hongzhi period see Mei and Tao, *Gems of Beijing Cultural Relics Series: Works of Decorative Arts I*, pp. 72-73, pls 27-28.



- 24 清康熙 海椰殼雕人物酒杯
A coco de mer wine cup of circular form, carved in relief with a figure on a bridge overlooking a pavilion and a further figure on a riverbank beside a boat, all among pine trees issuing from rockwork, the shell of dark-brown tone, copper lining to interior

China: Kangxi (1662-1722)
Diameter: 2 1/4 in (5.7 cm)

For a similar coco de mer cup see Tsang and Moss, *Arts from the Scholar's Studio*, pp. 260-261, no. 256.

- 25 清乾隆 海椰殼雕竹結紋酒杯
A coco de mer wine cup of rounded form carved in relief with simulated overlapping tied knotted bamboo cane forming interspersed flowerheads and circular motifs, the foot with a rope-pattern design, the shell of dark-brown tone

China: Qianlong (1736-95)
Diameter: 1 3/4 in (4.5 cm)



- 26 清康熙 海椰殼雕人物山水酒杯一對
A pair of coco de mer wine cups of circular form, carved with figures on bridges and in boats besides trees in a mountainous river landscapes, the shells of dark-brown tone, silver lining to interiors

China: Kangxi (1662-1722)
Diameter: 2 1/2 in (6.4 cm)

For a pair of coco de mer cups see from the Edward T. Chow Collection see Chow, Edward T., *One Man's Taste: Treasures from the Lakeside Pavilion*, p. 29, no. W10.



- 27 清乾隆 海椰殼雕菊蓮四葉形酒杯一對
A pair of coco de mer wine cups of quatrefoil form, carved in relief with alternating chrysanthemum heads and lotus heads containing trigrams below continuous bands of key-frets to the rims, the bases with carved sealmarks, the shells of caramel-brown tone

China: Qianlong (1736-95)
Diameter: 2 3/8 in (6cm)



清乾隆 綠松石雕山水山子

A turquoise mountain boldly carved in relief with pine trees and *lingzhi* sprays before overlapping rockwork below a rocky panel incised with a four-character inscription reading *wansong diecui* 萬松疊翠 ('myriad pines in layers of greenery'), the reverse carved with a waterfall appearing through rockwork beside further pine trees, the stone with vibrant blue and green tones and russet-brown striations

China: Qianlong (1736-95)

Width: 6 1/8 in (15.5 cm)

Height: 4 1/2 in (11.5 cm)

Provenance 來源: Private Dutch collection 荷蘭私人收藏

Joseph M. Mompugo, Amsterdam, 21 October 1975

約瑟夫M. 莫波格·阿姆斯特丹·1975年10月21日

For a similar turquoise mountain in the British Museum see Rawson, *The British Museum Book of Chinese Art*, 1992, fig. 18; one from the Augustus L. Serle Collection in the Minneapolis Institute of Art, accession no. 32.47.3a,b; and for a further mountain see Rawson and Ayres, *Chinese Jades Throughout the Ages*, p. 145, no. 497.



清乾隆 銅鑲金水晶軍持

29

An imperial rock crystal *kundika* with gilt-copper mounts, the body boldly carved in deep relief with a continuous band depicting three *qilong* dragons, two larger in size and one smaller, the flaring neck carved with bands of petals and lappets and foot with an incised band of key-frets, the vessel mounted in repousse gilt-copper revealing bands of lotus petals and hanging pendants to the neck and foot, the spout with a *makara* head, the stone of clear tone to the body with two fissures

The vessel China: Qianlong (1736-95), and mounts Nepal, 18/19th century
Height: 11 ³/₄ in (30 cm)

Himalayan Art Resources item no. 61753
喜馬拉雅藝術資源網61753號

Provenance 來源: Sotheby's New York,
24 September 1997,
lot 5 紐約蘇富比 ·
1997年9月24日 · 編號5

For a gilt-bronze mounted rock crystal ritual vessel see Hsin, ed., *Encyclopedia of Buddhist Arts: Artifacts & Decorative Art*, p. 362; for a Nepalese waterpot see Pal, *Art of the Himalayas*, p. 63, no. 27; an 18th century rock crystal *qilong* vase, a gift of Heber R. Bishop, is in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, accession no. 02.18.821a,b; for a rock crystal skull cup, *kapala*, see Ghose, *In the Footsteps of the Buddha*, pp. 243-244, no. 59; for an imperial rock crystal *guang* and cover see Knapton Rasti Asian Art, *November 2011: Ceramics and Works of Art*, pp. 58-59, no. 43; for a rock crystal mandala see Knapton Rasti Asian Art, *November 2007: Works of Art*, pp. 60-61, no. 39, and a Qianlong period rock crystal vase of ovoid form with *guei* dragons in the same publication, pp. 62-63, no. 40.



清乾隆 黃玉靈猴葫蘆瓶擺件

An imperial yellow jade vase group, incorporating a monkey kneeling on pierced rockwork, one hand resting on his leg, the other holding a peach beside a rectangular vase with pierced handles, the slightly flaring sides rising from a stepped foot to a flattened rim, and a double-gourd vase and cover decorated in high relief with fruiting gourd tendrils, one leafy branch forming the handle of the domed cover, the even yellow stone with slight mushroom inclusions

China: Qianlong (1736-95), original fitted *zitan* stand carved with pierced branches and cloud-scrolls

Height: 5 1/8 in (13 cm)

Width: 5 1/4 in (13.3 cm)

Provenance 來源: Important Private Taiwan collection 重要台灣私人收藏
Private French collection 法國私人收藏

Published 出版: Knapton Rasti Asian Art, *November 2012: Ceramics and Works of Art*, Hong Kong, 2012, no. 18



For similar style of vases see Nott, *A Catalogue of Rare Chinese Jade Carvings*, 1940, p. 185, no. 162; for examples using the same method of multiple rebuses to convey one meaning see *Jade Selections from Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties in the Tibet Museum*, 2005, p. 94, no. 55; for a Qianlong mark and period yellow jade double vase group with three rams and a *qilin* see The Palace Museum, ed., *Compendium of Collections in the Palace Museum: Jade, vol. 10, Qing Dynasty*, p. 57, pl. 30; for a yellow jade vase flanked by two boys in the National Museum of History, Taipei see *Jade: Ch'ing Dynasty Treasures from the National Museum of History, Taiwan*, p. 193, no. 124; and for a yellow jade double vase see Knapton Rasti Asian Art, *March 2007*, pp. 40-41, no. 36.



清乾隆 白玉雕仙與侍者圖蓋盒

A white jade box and cover, of tall rectangular form with canted corners on a raised reticulated base and *ruyi*-form feet, the top carved with an immortal and attendant on a bridge beside a pine tree beneath a building in a mountainous landscape, the wider sides decorated with a panel with a poetic inscription overlapping another panel of a bat above peachsprays below a *lingzhi* roundel, and double stylised dragons overlapping a squirrel amongst fruiting vines below a lotus roundel, the outer sides with two roundels of stylised coiled phoenix, all on a ground of swastikas interspersed with a T-pattern, the well-polished stone of even tone

China: Qianlong (1736-95)
Width: 2 7/8 in (7.3 cm)
Depth: 2 1/4 in (5.7 cm)
Height: 2 3/8 in (6 cm)

Provenance 來源: Private English collection 英國私人收藏

For a Ming dynasty white jade box and cover with pierced sides see The Palace Museum, ed., *Compendium of Collections in the Palace Museum: Jade, vol. 7, Ming Dynasty*, p. 249, pl. 239; and a reticulated greyish-white jade potpourri and cover in the National Museum of History, Taipei, see *Jade: Ch'ing Dynasty Treasures from the National Museum of History, Taiwan*, p. 254, no. 198.



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清乾隆 白玉雕仙女乘槎擺件

A white jade carving of a female immortal in a raft, the vessel with gnarled branches forming in the back extending above the figure who holds a *lingzhi* spray, standing before a large jar at the opposite end

China: Qianlong (1736-95), wood stand
Length: 4 1/4 in (11 cm)

Provenance 來源: Private European collection 歐洲私人收藏

For a similar white jade raft with figures in the National Museum of History, Taipei, see *Jade: Ch'ing Dynasty Treasures from the National Museum of History, Taiwan*, pp. 134-135, no. 70.



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DYNASTIES IN CHINA 中國歷代朝代

Neolithic	新石器時代	10th-early 1st millennium BCE
Shang	商	1600-1046 BCE
Zhou	周	1046-256 BCE
Spring and Autumn	春秋	770-476 BCE
Warring States	戰國	475-221 BCE
Qin	秦	221-207 BCE
Han	漢	206 BCE-220 CE
Three Kingdoms	三國	220-280
Six Dynasties	六朝	222-589
Jin	晉	265-420
Southern and Northern Dynasties	南北朝	386-589
Sui	隋	581-618
Tang	唐	618-907
Five Dynasties	五代	907-960
Liao	遼	916-1125
Song	宋	960-1279
West Xia	西夏	1038-1227
Jin	金	1115-1234
Yuan	元	1271-1368
Ming	明	1368-1644
Qing	清	1644-1911
Republic of China	中華民國	1912-1949
People's Republic of China	中華人民共和國	1949-



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