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Art in China (Oxford History of Art)

Craig Clunas



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China boasts a history of art spanning 5,000 years and embracing a wide diversity of images and objects-from jade tablets, painted silk handscrolls and fans to ink and lacquer painting, porcelain-ware, sculpture, and calligraphy. But this rich tradition has not, until now, been fully appreciated in the West where scholars have focused their attention on sculpture, while largely ignoring those art forms most highly prized by the Chinese themselves, such as calligraphy. Now, in *Art in China*, Craig Clunas marks a breakthrough in the study of the subject. Taking into account all the arts practiced in China, and drawing on recent innovative scholarship, this rich text examines the production and consumption of art in its appropriate contexts. From art found in tombs to the state-controlled art of the Mao Zedong era, *Art in China* offers a novel look and comprehensive examination of all aspects of Chinese art.

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