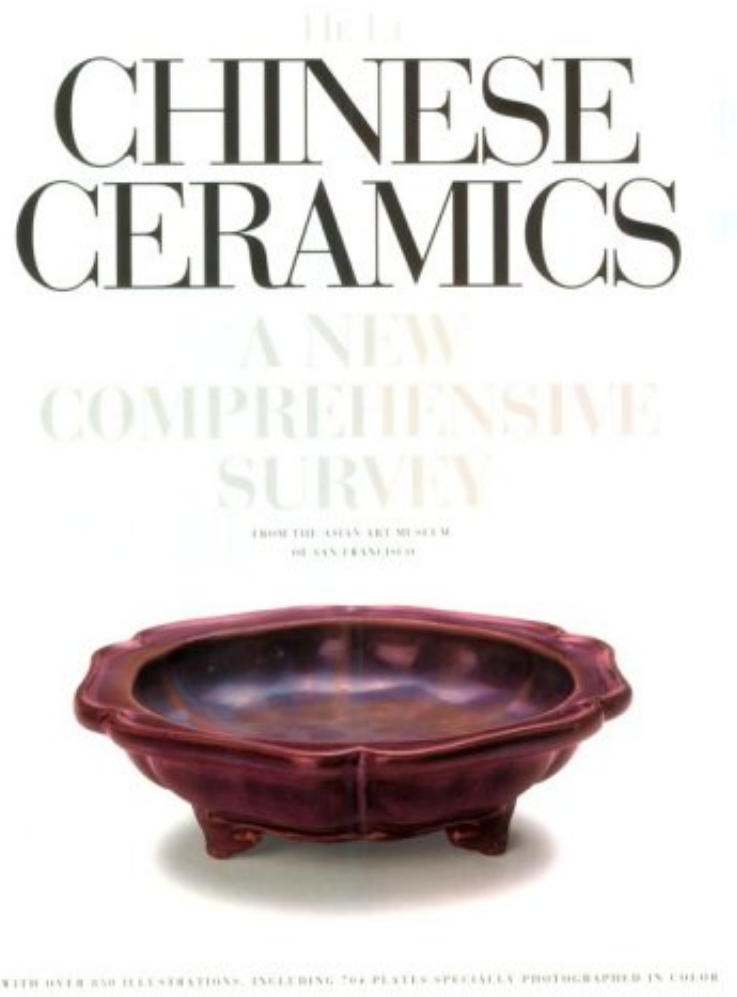


Chinese Ceramics: A New Comprehensive Survey from the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco

Li He

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Li He : Chinese Ceramics: A New Comprehensive Survey from the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chinese Ceramics: A New Comprehensive Survey from the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco:

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history, materials and techniques. Kasuhiro Tsuruta deserves special mention for the many superb colour photographs; they show texture and detail of glazes hard to capture on film. The text and maps include information obtained from recent excavations of kiln sites, which makes this useful as a supplement to older books on Chinese ceramics. Attributions of provenance for some pieces have changed due to recent research. Besides a glossary and the usual list of dynasties and reigns, there is a very useful list of the Chinese characters for proper names, place names, descriptive phrases and technical terms. The collection itself, largely the bequest of the late Avery Brundage, is absolutely stunning in its taste and range. Monochrome glazes, for example, are well represented. The connoisseur's eye is evident. This is a very useful overview of historical Chinese ceramics, but it would be of interest to anyone with a taste for the beautiful and subtle.

From dust jacket notes: "For centuries Chinese ceramics have been the objects most coveted in the West by collectors with an interest in the arts of Asia. The extraordinary innovations of Chinese potters count among the most outstanding accomplishments in the cultural heritage of the world since the Neolithic era. Systematic study of Chinese ceramics, begun in the eighteenth century with the French Jesuit Pere d'Entrecolles, has been greatly enlarged in the twentieth century, and since the end of the Cultural Revolution in 1976, extensive excavations at kiln sites have yielded invaluable new insights into the chronological development of ceramic forms, glaze types and decorative styles. This remarkable book cites all the latest scientific and archaeological evidence, examining provenance, technique, archaeological and historical context, and ancient traditions of Chinese connoisseurship and patronage to provide an integrated and highly detailed approach to the subject. In over 700 color photographs specially taken for this book, a wide range of imperial and regional, decorative and practical export and domestic, ceremonial and funerary wares are fully represented. These are organized into four chronologically arranged sections, from the Neolithic to the end of the Qing dynasty, each accompanied by a survey of the period and detailed descriptions of the pieces illustrated. The notes on the plates are further illustrated with photographs of base marks, a vital aid in the identification process. An important reference section includes: a glossary of technical terms, complete with Chinese characters; a full bibliography; and lists of major public collections....With over 850 illustrations, 704 in color, and six maps."

Language NotesText: English, Chinese