

Western Zhou Ritual Bronzes From The Arthur M Sackler Collections Volumes Iia And Iib

Eastern Zhou Ritual Bronzes from the Arthur M. Sackler Collections
The Problem of Meaning in Early Chinese Ritual Bronzes
Cast for Eternity
Western Zhou Ritual Bronzes from the Arthur M. Sackler Collections
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Recasting the Past: The Art of Chinese Bronzes, 1100–1900
Pathways to the Afterlife
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Ritual Bronzes of Ancient China
Defining Chu
Ancient Ritual Bronzes of China
The Cambridge History of Ancient China
Archaic Chinese Script and Ritual Bronzes
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the supreme art form of ancient china was the bronze ritual vessel kings and nobles offered food and drink to their ancestors in spectacular cast bronze containers which served to advertise the owner's wealth and power no less than his piety many of the bronzes eventually found their way into the tombs of their owners where they lay undisturbed for centuries or millennia until accidental discovery or the archaeologist's spade brought them once more to light the vast collection of chinese bronzes formed by the late dr arthur m sackler ranges over the entire bronze age the bronzes of the eastern zhou period 8th to 3rd century bc are the subject of this third and concluding volume of the comprehensive catalogue of the collection in a thorough and up to date introduction dr jenny so assistant curator of ancient chinese art at the arthur m sackler gallery smithsonian institution gives a detailed account of the history of eastern zhou bronzes particularly valuable is dr so's systematic use of the latest archaeological discoveries to trace regional and chronological developments and to study the political context in which bronzes were made and used an especially valuable supplement to the volume is a major study of bronze bells coauthored by an archaeologist and an acoustical physicist professor lothar von falkenhausen of ucla and professor thomas d rossing of northern illinois university the sackler collection includes twenty one bells which were employed in the same offering rituals as the bronze vessels ninety color plates provide full documentation of the sackler bronzes and over 560 black and white comparative illustrations help to set them in the context provided by archaeological research scholarly appendices report elemental composition data on the bronze alloys lead isotope ratios and thermoluminescence dating tests of clay core material

the vast collection of chinese bronzes formed by the late dr arthur m sackler ranges over the entire bronze age

the bronze ritual vessel the defining artifact of early chinese civilization is the subject of this monumental study of shang ritual bronzes in the arthur m sackler collections a comprehensive introduction the most thorough treatment of shang bronzes in any language lays the foundation for 104 catalogue entries many of which explore in greater detail specific problems in casting technology epigraphy vessel typology and provincial bronze styles color plates of all the sackler bronzes are supplemented by rubbings details and more than 500 comparative illustrations throughout the book the author has made systematic use of the astonishing archaeological discoveries of the last 15 years discoveries which include major finds of pre anyang bronzes and the unprecedented excavation in 1976 of an intact shang royal tomb no less revealing however are technical studies of chinese bronzes carried out in the west including studies of the bronzes catalogued here for dr bagley shows technical factors to have played a crucial role in the development of the shang artistic tradition by giving special attention to the formative stages of the shang bronze industry he is able to trace in precise detail the complex interaction of technique and design which led from modest beginnings at erlitou to the spectacular bronzes of the anyang period c 1300

1030 bc in the spirit of Jean Bony's remark that each moment has its right to be considered ultimate pre-Anyang bronzes are treated not as stepping stones to the more familiar bronzes of Anyang times but as objects deserving attention in their own right nevertheless Anyang bronzes become at once less familiar and more intelligible when viewed in a developmental perspective and the strict historical approach taken here calls into question current interpretations of their decoration ten years in the making this book will be of interest not only to students of Chinese archaeology but also to historians of technology to art historians interested in the process of artistic invention and to archaeologists concerned with the comparative study of ancient civilizations

Volume I of Ancient Chinese Bronzes: The Bronze Ritual Vessel the defining artifact of early Chinese civilization is the subject of this monumental study of Shang ritual bronzes in the Arthur M Sackler Collections a comprehensive introduction the most thorough treatment of Shang bronzes in any language lays the foundation for 104 catalogue entries many of which explore in greater detail specific problems in casting technology epigraphy vessel typology and provincial bronze styles color plates of all the Sackler bronzes are supplemented by rubbings details and more than 500 comparative illustrations

Bronze vessels were the ultimate emblems of power in ancient China beginning in the twelfth century the rediscovery of ancient bronzes as evidence of an earlier golden age led to a revival of bronze casting this publication is the first comprehensive study of these later Chinese bronzes in archaic styles which were commissioned by emperors and officials from the twelfth through the nineteenth centuries to assert political legitimacy and alignment with traditional values redressing the misconception that these works were mere imitations of the ancient vessels they emulated recasting the past demonstrates that they were in fact creative reinterpretations of antique shapes and decorative motifs that were fundamentally new creations with their own aesthetic and functional character featuring nearly two hundred objects many never before published including ceremonial bells incense burners flower vases ritual vessels and writing utensils Pengliang Lu explores their cultural and political significance from the Song dynasty through the Qing dynasty and shows their enormous influence on Chinese art and culture

Nicely produced catalog for an exhibition at the Denver Art Museum features 43 ceramic and bronze jars bowls cups and flasks and traces the progression of Chinese design and decoration from its beginnings at the hands of Neolithic potters up to the creation of funerary wares by Han and Tang

Defining Chu begins with an overview of the historical geography an outline of archaeological evidence for Chu history and an appreciation of Chu art following chapters examine issues of state and society the ideology of the ruling class legal procedures popular culture and daily life the final section surveys Chu religion and literature and

includes an analysis of the Chuci the great anthology of Chu poetry and its impact on mainstream Chinese literature a translation of the Chu silk manuscript is appended this document has intrigued scholars since its discovery in Changsha some sixty years ago the inclusion of this rare and difficult text available for the first time in an effective and accessible translation will make this volume indispensable to students and scholars of early Chinese history and thought

The Cambridge History of Ancient China provides a survey of the cultural history of pre-imperial China fourteen leading specialists on early Chinese history and archaeology cover more than one thousand years there are two chapters for each time period Shang Western Zhou Spring and Autumn and Warring States one on institutional history based on both traditional and palaeographic literature and one on material culture based on archaeological evidence there are also chapters on the Neolithic background language intellectual history relations with Central Asia and the debts of both the Qin and Han empires to these earlier time periods although written by specialists this Cambridge History aims to explain and describe pre-imperial China to an audience that will include scholars and students as well as general readers without specialized knowledge of Chinese history it can be consulted as a work of reference or read continuously alone or as part of the Cambridge History of China series

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