

The Mysterious Stone

神秘的石头

新石器时代到汉代的玉器

Chinese
Jades

from the
Neolithic
to the
Han dynasty

by
Filippo
Salviati

new release



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THE MYSTERIOUS STONE

Chinese Jades from the
Neolithic to the Han
Dynasty from Private
Collections

By
Filippo Salviati

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Subscription price €49

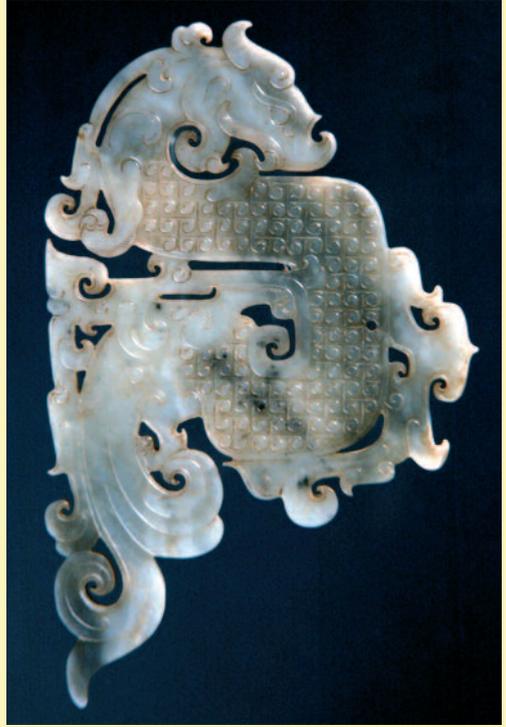
incl. access to the website of
this book with more than 800
online illustrations of all jades

**Hardcover, 345 pages
over 400 colour photographs**
bibliography and a glossary
of the Chinese terms
Size 27 x 23 cm

ISBN 978-3-9503553-9-0

The book will introduce the readers to the fascinating and intriguing world of Chinese archaic jades by presenting more than 300 carved jades from private collections that have been researched and selected by Filippo Salviati, an internationally renowned expert on the subject and Professor of Chinese art at 'Sapienza' University, Rome.

The jades are arranged chronologically and are representative of virtually all the shapes which were created in China from the Late Neolithic period (c.3000-2000 BC) to the Han dynasty (206 BC – AD 220), a scope rarely seen in publications of this kind. The jades have been selected for their rarity,



aesthetic qualities, level of workmanship and cultural significance. Many of the jades described in the book have exact counterparts with others excavated from major archaeological sites in China or housed in renowned public museum collections, both in China and in the Western world.

The volume is completed by an informative introduction, additional short essays introducing each of the main sections, as well as a detailed and updated bibliography and a list of the archaeological sites and Chinese names mentioned in the text. The volume is a must for all jade lovers and collectors! Jade, one of the materials most valued by the Chinese, has been worked in China almost uninterruptedly

from prehistoric times to the present day. However, it is during the formative stages of Chinese civilization, when jade was carved in many different forms and decorated with powerful images to produce objects symbolizing authority and status, that the jade carving tradition reached its climax.

This book explores the 'golden period' of the Chinese jade carving tradition from the late Neolithic (c.3500-2000 BC) to the Han dynasty (206 BC – AD 220), during which vast amounts of jades were produced for ritual, ornamental or display usages.

The numerous archeological excavations which have been undertaken in China since the 1970s and the important discoveries made in this new century have been fundamental to gaining a better understanding of the jade carving tradition in ancient China, and the picture is continuously evolving on the basis of new finds. To scholars and researchers of the field, the excavated material also offers the possibility to date and re-frame in their proper historical and cultural context

jades from public and private collections which have been acquired prior to these findings.

Filippo Salviati, Professor of Chinese Art at 'Sapienza' University of Rome, has been extensively researching the intriguing world of Chinese archaic jades for the past twenty years, conducting regular field-trips to China to examine the latest discoveries and study the materials preserved in Chinese museums. During his research, Salviati has carefully examined thousands of Chinese jades from private and

public collections all over the world and which have appeared on the international market in the last decades.

With over 300 selected jades, thoroughly described and superbly illustrated, this book is an insightful and informative reference work for every collector and student of archaic jades. The book will provide the reader with all the necessary information for understanding the developments in the jade carving tradition of ancient China through the evolution of shapes, styles, motifs and the cultural significance these precious objects had for the ancient Chinese.



In addition, buyers of this book will gain access to a website with high-resolution images which can be enlarged to examine all of the published jades in close and magnified detail. The website will offer views from several angles, allowing for thorough examination of each of the more than 300 examples selected for this publication: it is a valuable and important medium for studying the fine workmanship, admiring the quality of carving in minute detail and enjoying the many and rich variations in colour of jade.



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