

Recent Books of Art and Art History - January 2008

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The Sapa Ancient Rock Field as Seen From the Angle of Plastic Arts = Bai Da Co Sapa
Duoi Con Mat Tao Hinh
Vietnam : The Gioi Publishers, c2007
198 p. : ill. ; 29 cm.
\$ 49.50

[Contents :

1. Introduction
 2. The geomorphological and geological features of Muong Hoa Valley
 3. The date and authors of the images carved on some rocks in sapa
 4. The ancient rock field in Sapa
 5. Some rocks with carved images on the rocks in Xin Man, Ha Giang
 6. The ancient carved rocks field in Sapa and the world's primitive art
 7. From sapa ancient rock field... to modern art
 8. List of geographic names with rock carvings and rock drawings recognized as world cultural heritage.]
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The Art of Champa / Jean-Francois Hubert
New York : Parkstone press International, c2005
231 p. ; ill. ; 32 cm.
Includes Bibliography.
1-85995-975-X
\$ 65.00

[Contents :

1. Introduction
 2. The History of Champa
 3. Cham Architecture
 4. Gods and their representation
 5. Styles and the dating of Sculptures
 6. Conclusion
 7. Glossary
 8. Brief Chronology of Champa
 9. Bibliography
 10. List of Illustrations]
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Art of Vietnam / Catherine Noppe
New York : Parkstone Press Ltd., c2003
271 p. : ill. ; 32 cm.
Includes Bibliography.
1-85995-860-5
\$ 59.50

[Since the foundation of the Au Lac kingdom three centuries ago- famous for their bronze drums and their magnificent artilleries – until the works of the painters from the Ecole des Beaux-Arts of Indochina, created in Hanoi in 1925, the arts of Vietnam have been marked by its profoundly original cultures and the fusion between Asia and the Occident. The modern Vietnamese civilization has therefore inherited a very rich and multifaceted history.]

A Journey through Traditional Culture of Thang Long-Ha Noi-(5 books SET)
Ha Noi : The Gioi Publishers, 2006
v. : ill. ; 20 cm.
\$ 25.00 (Set Price)

The Fine Art of Thang Long-Ha Noi
Architecture of Thang Long-Ha Noi
Traditional Handicrafts of Thang Long-Ha Noi
Traditional Folk Festivals of Thang Long-Ha Noi
Confucian Education and Examinations in Thang Long-Ha Noi]

Ridivihara : The Flowering of Kandyan Art / SinhaRaja Tammita – Delgoda
Pannipitiya : Stamford Lake (Pvt) Ltd., c2006
xxvii, 175 p. : ill. ; 28 cm.
Includes bibliography and index.
955-113-72-X
1. Buddhism – Sacred Places
\$ 70.00

[This work traces the art and history of the temple from the 2nd Century BC to 1815 AC.

Over the centuries the vihare has become a veritable treasure trove of Sinhala art, painting, architecture, sculpture, ivory carving and metalwork.

The greater part of what remains belongs to the late medieval era in Sri Lanka's history, known today as the Kandyan period (1592-1815). It is the product of a brilliant period in Sri Lanka's recent past, a flowering of art religion and culture which took place during the reign of King Kirti Sri Rajasinha (1747-1782). This renaissance was pioneered by two great monks, the Sangharaja , Saranakara and his close disciple and deputy, the High Priest of Ridi Vihare, the Venerable Siddartha Buddharakkita, who was to become the first Mahanayake of Malware.

From this time onwards, Ridi Vihare has been of the great temples of the Kandyan Kingdom and over the course of the last two hundred and fifty years three of its High Priests have become the supreme heads or Mahanayakes of the Malwatte Nikaya, one of the two great monastic orders of Kandy. Its current High Priest has just become the new Mahanayake of Malwatte, the chief of the order.]

Images of Celestial Bodies in Sri Lanka Art / Chandra Wikramagamage
Colombo : Godage International Publishers (Pvt) Ltd., c2007
80 p. : ill. ; 24 cm.
Includes bibliography and references.
978-955-30-0484-0
1. Painting – Sri Lanka
\$ 32.00

[From Preface : Celestial bodies have been conceptually personified as anthropomorphic and semi anthropomorphic deities. These deities have been divided

into three classes namely Planetary Deities, Deities of Signs and Constellations. Sri Lankan Buddhists used these deities to adorn the image houses of the Kandyan Period (18th Century) and continued up to this century. Sculptures of these deities with some others have been used in Bali rituals, a folk healing system in Sri Lanka. Present study deals with both types of the images of folk deities.]

Senaka / Harsha Bhatkhal

Colombo : Vijitha Yapa Publications and Popular Prakashan Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai, c2008
x, 177 p. : ill. ; 28 cm.

978-955-1266-93-6 (Vijitha Yapa Publications)

978-81-7991-252-2 (Popular Prakashan)

\$ 80.00

[From Foreword :

The contemporary art of Sri Lanka reflects the influence of art traditions of India and Europe. These art traditions are noticeable in the works of the artists belonging to the '43 Group. There is quality and freshness in their paintings due to the exposure to these art traditions. These artists displayed spontaneity in expression and integrated idiom seen as a departure from the style of their predecessors. Senaka Senanayake belongs to a younger generation of artists widely acknowledged as possessing a keen sense of line, colour, and composition. His imaginative skill has helped him to take a new direction, breaking into new grounds of creativity.]

Sketches of Nudes by Tsang Kai-Hong 28.4-3.6.2007

Hong Kong : University Museum and Art Gallery, The University of Hong Kong, 2007
139p.

978-962-8038-72-5

\$ 15.00

Burden or Legacy : From the Chinese Cultural Revolution to Contemporary Art /
Edited Jiang Jiehong

Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, 2007

Ix, 161p.

978-962-209-870-1

\$ 39.50

The Cultural Revolution in China (1966-1976) has often been regarded as a period of disruptive turbulence and frenzied savagery. Its legacy to artistic growth and expression amounts to nothing except a burden of haunting traumas. Or does it amount to more than that?

The seven authors in this anthology of essays and images argue that it does. Focusing on the impact of the Cultural Revolution on the development of contemporary art in China, they present fresh and critical perspectives on how one of the most disturbing periods of modern Chinese history has affected the creativity of contemporary Chinese artists.

Featuring about 140 coloured illustrations by various Chinese artists and six essays whose themes range from the sociohistorical impact of Mao to the visual representation of trauma and memories, *Burden or Legacy* brings a multidimensional view to our understanding of the influence of the Cultural Revolution on contemporary China. This is one of the first studies in English on the topic and will

serve as a beginning point for anyone who is interested in the history, development, and creation of contemporary art in China.

Plum Blossom on Purple Clay : Teapot Carving by Mr. Shen Juechu
Hong Kong : Jao Tsung-I Petite Ecole, The University of Hong Kong, 2006
127p.
978-988-99654-0-2
\$ 20.00

Onib Olmedo : Dimensions of Depth
Pasig City : Cultural Center of the Philippines, 2007
100p.
\$ 26.00

This is a catalogue of a retrospective exhibition of the works of one of the country's finest expressionist painters.

Zhangzhou Ware found in the Philippines : "Swatow" Export Ceramics from Fujian
16th-17th Century / Rita C Tan
Malaysia : ArtPostAsia Pte Ltd, 2007
191p.
978-971-93170-9-8
Co-published by Yuchengo Museum & The Oriental Ceramic Society of the Philippines
\$ 79.50

Zhangzhou ware was produced during the 16th-17th Century in Fujian, China. They were meant to meet the trading demands of the neighbouring countries of Asia.

This catalogue substantiates historical accounts of the Philippines being one of the thriving markets of China's ceramic trade in the late ming period. The collection in this catalogue clearly shows to the world the range and variety of Zhangzhou ware shipped to the Philippines during the 16th-17th Century of the Ming Dynasty. Today Zhangzhou ware continues to attract collectors because of its rustic charm.

Pearl of the Orient : The Philippines in a Shell / Jose Maria a Carino, Sonia P Ner
Philippines : Ars Mundi, 2007
192p.
\$ 125.00

This book brings together for the first time publication, paintings and carvings on mother-of-pearl shells that served as souvenirs of the Philippines during the last part of the 19th Century. Because of the mother-of-pearl or pinctada maxima shells were abundant in the Philippines, they became perfect keepsakes of the archipelago. Depicted inside these small, portable, and almost indestructible shells are mostly scenes of Philippine daily life, and they are captured quite vividly despite their miniature picture planes – an excellent memento for, truly, here is the Philippines in a shell.

Nostalgia / Roland Santos ; Text by Marlene Aguilar
Philippines : Jamayco Publishing House, 2008
176p.
971-93446-3-6
\$ 120.00

'A Collection of watercolours of Roland Santos'

Yin and Yang / Cusi; Text by Marlene Aguilar
Philippines : Jamayco Publishing House, 2008
199p.
971-93446-2-9
\$ 120.00

' A Collection of Paintings of Cusi'
