

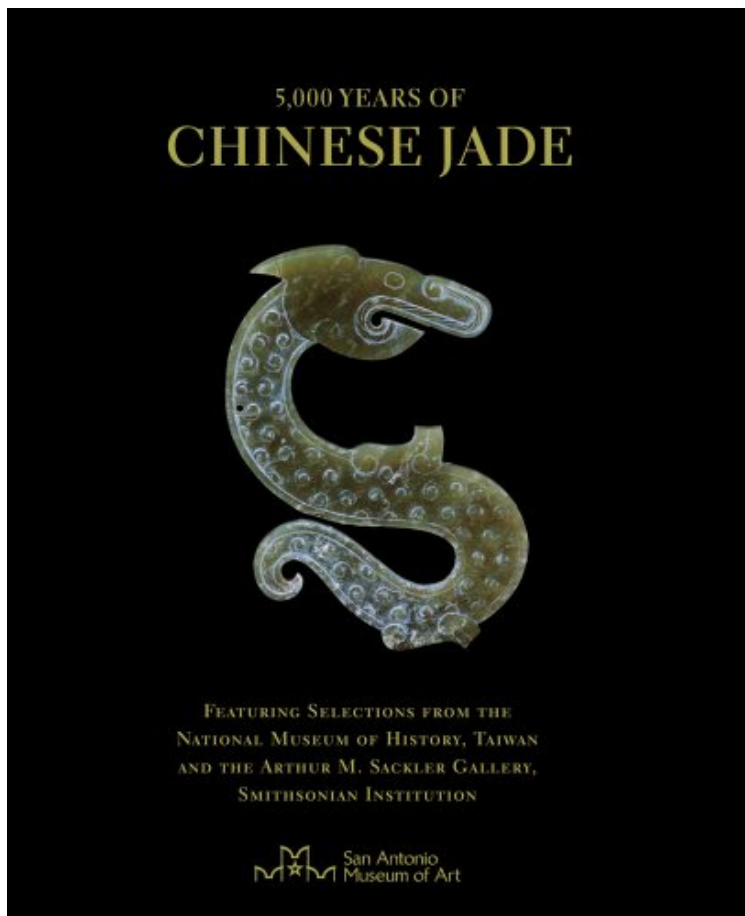
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*John Johnston, Chan Lai Pik*

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## **5,000 Years of Chinese Jade: Featuring Selections from the National Museum of History, Taiwan, and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution**

**John Johnston, Chan Lai Pik : 5,000 Years of Chinese Jade: Featuring Selections from the National Museum of History, Taiwan, and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 5,000 Years of Chinese Jade: Featuring Selections from the National Museum of History, Taiwan, and the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Early jade historyBy R. CampbellThe book focuses on the early Chinese jade history and not much help for us collectors who have to worry about the many reproductions in today's markets.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. publishers synopsis:By reviews5,000 Years of Chinese Jade Featuring Selections from the National Museum of History, Taiwan and the Arthur M. Sackler Collection, Smithsonian Institution is a major international exhibition organized by SAMA and held in conjunction with the City

of San Antonio's yearlong celebration of Taiwan. With its broad historical approach, the exhibition provides an opportunity to experience the great breadth of Chinese history through outstanding works of art arranged chronologically. Principal types represented in the jade exhibition include ritual objects, weapons, scholars' objects, adornments and jewelry, and vessels. The jades vary greatly in color, size, date, and function. An Education Gallery located in the exhibition allows visitors to further explore the subject through videos, books, and computer resources. The primary lender to the exhibition is the National Museum of History in Taipei, Taiwan. The National Museum of History has generously contributed forty-five outstanding jade works of art to the exhibition. Of particular interest are five jades from the Spring and Autumn period (770 - 476 BC) classified as Important National Treasures of Taiwan. Most of the jades from Taiwan, including the National Treasures, will be on view in America for the first time. Another prestigious lender to 5,000 Years of Chinese Jade is the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery at the Smithsonian Institution. Twenty-four jades from the celebrated Sackler Collection complement the jade objects from Taiwan. Highlights from the Sackler Gallery include the famous Han dynasty Bear (220 BC - AD 221) and Song dynasty Hound (960-1279). Two additional lenders also provide exquisite jades: A number of large eighteenth-century jades, including a lovely Elephant Vase from the Qianlong period (1736-1795), are on loan from the Springfield Museums in Springfield, Massachusetts. An anonymous private American collector contributes a dozen superb jades, several which were carved in Imperial workshops, including an elegant bird carving with Emperor Qianlong's seal mark. The San Antonio Museum of Art contributes two jades to the exhibition, both acquired within the last two years. The Museum is grateful for generous financial support of this major exhibition from the Helen and Everett H. Jones Exhibition Endowment, Lenora and Walter F. Brown, the Mays Family Foundation, the City of San Antonio Office of Cultural Affairs, the Texas Commission on the Arts, Rose Marie and John L. Hendry III, the Daniel J. Sullivan Family Charitable Foundation, the Council for Cultural Affairs, Taiwan and the Taipei Cultural Center of TECO in New York.

5,000 Years of Chinese Jade is a concise visual survey of art-historically important jade spanning the Neolithic period to the 19th century, offering a stunning visual journey through themes and time periods important in the history of jade in China. The book is arranged chronologically in five main periods: Neolithic, Shang to Zhou dynasty, Han to Song dynasty, Yuan and Ming dynasties, and the Qing dynasty. Primary subjects and themes include ritual objects, weapons, scholars' objects, adornments and jewelry, and vessels, providing an important new resource for the study of Chinese jade.

"5,000 Years of Chinese Jade is a beautiful book, with clear and concise essays, excellent photographs and thoughtful catalog entries, which give readers a new appreciation for the significance of jade throughout Chinese history. It would make an excellent addition to any library." May-Lee Chai, Asian Affairs: An American About the Author  
John Johnston is Coates-Cowden-Brown Curator of Asian Art at the San Antonio Museum of Art. Chan Lai Pik is a research fellow at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Lin Shwu Shin is the author of Jade: Chi'ng Dynasty Treasures.