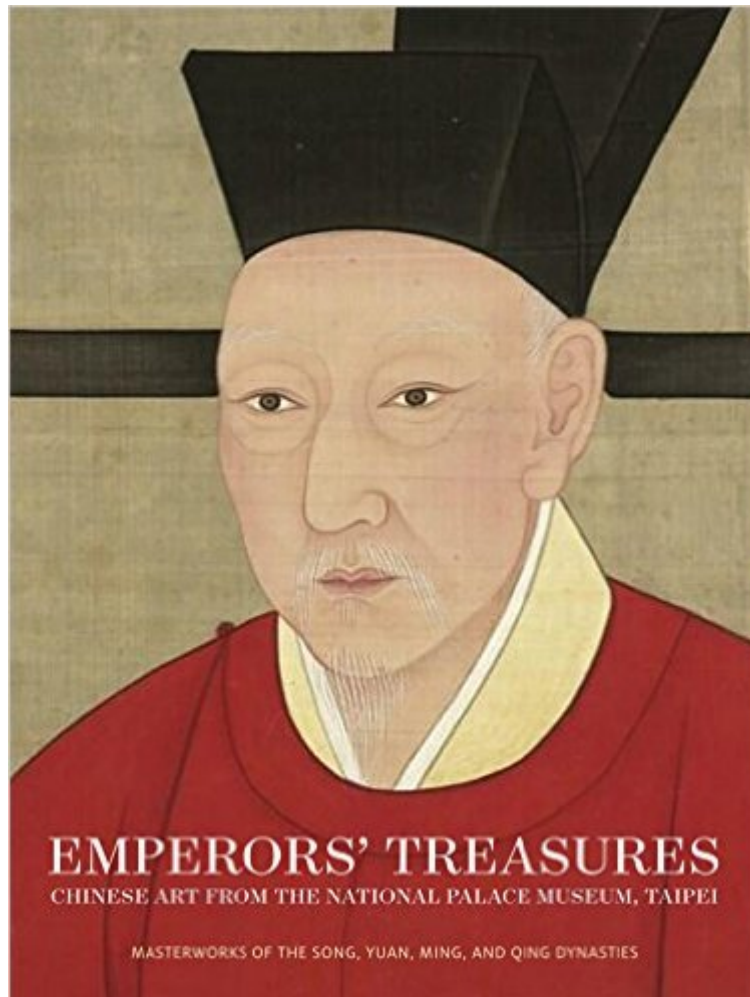


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Emperors' Treasures: Chinese Art From The National Palace Museum, Taipei



Synopsis

Emperors' Treasures features artworks from the renowned National Palace Museum, Taipei. It encompasses paintings, calligraphy, bronzes, ceramics, lacquer ware, jades, and textiles exemplifying the finest craftsmanship and imperial taste. The Chinese art book explores the identities of eight Chinese rulers—seven emperors and one empress—who reigned from the early 12th through early 20th centuries. They are portrayed in a story line that highlights artworks of their eras, from the dignified Song to the coarse yet subtle Yuan, and from the brilliant Ming until the final, dazzling Qing period. Emperors' Treasures examines each ruler's distinct contribution to the arts and how each developed his or her aesthetic and connoisseurship.

Book Information

Hardcover: 272 pages

Publisher: Asian Art Museum; 1 edition (June 28, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0939117738

ISBN-13: 978-0939117734

Product Dimensions: 9 x 1.1 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #123,502 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Houseware & Dining > Porcelain & China](#) #148 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Collections, Catalogs & Exhibitions](#) #351 in [Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Criticism](#)

Customer Reviews

This is a very interesting exhibition of important Chinese art on loan from Taipei which I was privileged to visit. The catalogue is nicely written to give a good background for the pieces presented. The quality of printing is very good. The only problem, which is not unique to this particular catalogue, is that the paintings, which have so much fine detail to look at, are almost all reproduced in a very small image. After looking at a painting in person that is several feet high, it is almost ridiculous to think that a reproduction a few inches high will do it justice. They haven't even taken advantage of the full height of the book page because they have squeezed the images into the space left over, with the text having been prioritized. Why not make it a few more pages, and print the paintings larger and include some detail views of the more intricate parts? I think people would

pay a few more dollars for this. The wonderful and highly detailed paintings in albums presented in the exhibition are treated even worse. Each page of the albums is only given an inch or two in the book, with only a few slightly larger details. I just don't understand why people who publish art books can't grasp that we want to see the art. The other items, in general, are reproduced in an adequate size and printed very nicely, some with two or three views.

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