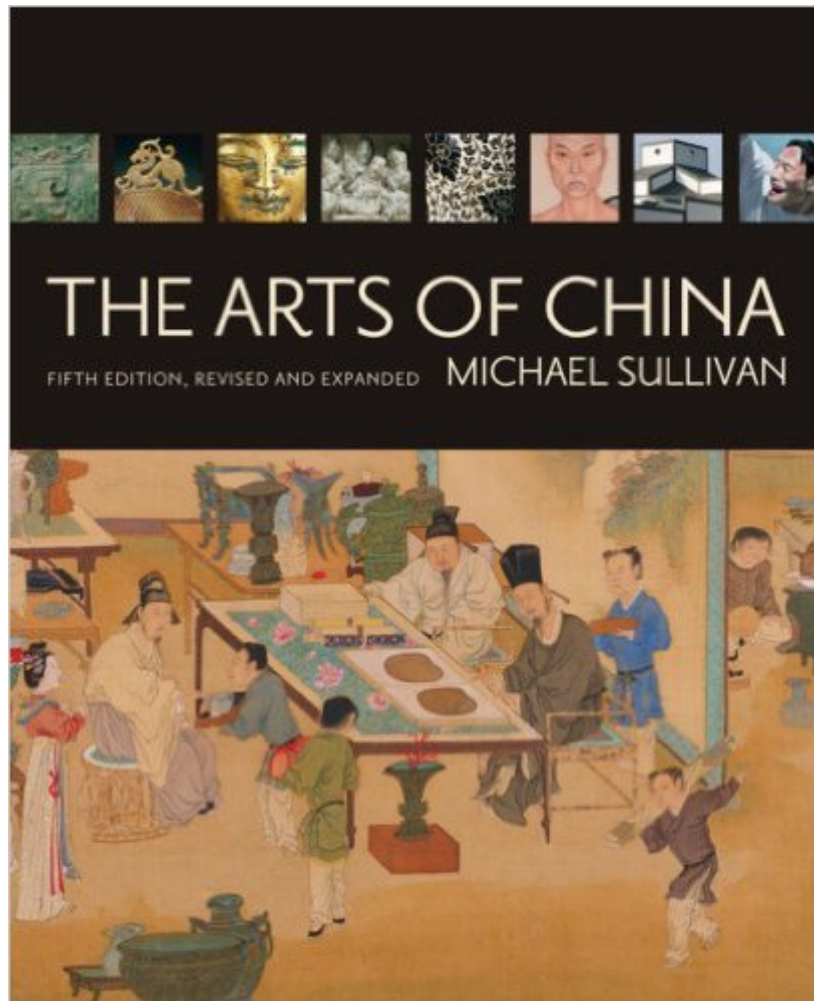


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# The Arts Of China, 5th Revised & Enlarged Edition



## Synopsis

For the fifth edition of his internationally renowned *The Arts of China*, Michael Sullivan has thoroughly revised and expanded every chapter of this classic history of Chinese art from the Neolithic period to the present day. This new edition reflects the latest archaeological discoveries, pays greater attention to the art of calligraphy, provides more information on Chan (Zen) art, and takes a close look at contemporary art. New images have been added to almost every chapter: the work now features more than four hundred photographs, maps, and illustrations, with more than two-thirds of them in full color. Written in the engaging and lucid style that is Sullivan's hallmark, *The Arts of China* is readily accessible to general readers as well as serious students of art history. Sullivan's approach remains true to the way the Chinese themselves view art, providing readers with a sense of the sweep of history through China's dynasties. This organizational strategy makes it easy for readers to understand the distinct characteristics of each period of art and to gain a clearer view of how Chinese art has changed in relation to its historical context. With many improvements that bring it fully up to date, *The Arts of China* will remain the most comprehensive and widely read introduction to the history of Chinese art.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

It is difficult to write "Short History of Chinese Arts". Suppose that an honest scholar start preparing his lecture note of " Chinese Arts", he shall struggle with selecting subjects and plates. Moreover, for example, he feels that he be an expert on ancient bronzes, and a beginner of export wares in 17th century. Leaving the purgatory, he would want help to a standard textbook. Among English

books, this noted book may have been used in many college courses. 1st edition(1967) and The revised edition(1973) were welcomed by many students and scholars. Even a Japanese translation had been popular for many years. In this 4th edition, 84 old respectable scholar still attracts me with lucid style. For beginners, this should be a good introduction. Appreciating artifacts in Museum, finding something in antique shop, or reading books/papers/articles about a particular subject, it needs some elementary background knowledge for Chinese arts and history. This offers such COMMON SENSE. For experienced scholars, this is an interesting reading. This might look a mean textbook for them. Before reading, I minded I become tired for many facts already learned, but I enjoy this book even in commute train, although this edition format is too large. Because not only this is Readable for a Japanese, but also gives many (sometimes implicit) skeptical suggestions. At 258p, about Wan Hui (1632-1677, painter), "The Palace Museum collection also contains a number of clever pastiches of tenth-century and Northern Song landscapes that are almost certainly his work"; keen insight! I should regretfully notice that some illustrations/items might be inadequate, blurred, or damaged. I hope that they will be changed at next chance.

The book, *The Arts of China*, was book I needed to purchase for a college level Asian Art History class focused on China. Each chapter was divided into dynasties and within each chapter sections were written on: background history, ceramics, paintings, sculpture, and other various topics. There are lovely color pictures with high resolution, which are an essential to any student or scholar studying this art. The writing is clear and even enjoyable. I'd highly recommend this book!

I bought this book for a class, and I've been satisfied with it. The pictures are nearly all in color. The few pictures that are not in color, are usually not in color because we only have black and white photographs left. I would have appreciated greater information on the pieces in the illustrations. Sometimes a piece is pictured as an example without the caption or text going into exactly what aspects of the piece make it a typical example of the period. I had to rely more on my professor for that. The book does a good job at talking about the religious, social, and scientific changes that effect the production and purpose of art. The writing is very clear but fairly dry and academic, so it's not really a book that makes you want to sit down and read it for hours. I don't think I would have finished it if I wasn't taking a class using it, but I did learn a lot.

The colour illustrations in this book are lovely to behold. Many show restored artifacts from China's long history. Vases, stoneware, flasks, paintings, handscrolls and much more. From the paintings,

you can see where the traditional misty style of Chinese landscape paintings arose. There are even genres, like bamboo painting. Just like the Europeans developed portraits of horses and landed gentry. Naturally, there is also extensive coverage of porcelain plates and containers. Beautifully decorated. The items that the Europeans would call "china"; so close was the identification of the objects with China itself. But more than just objects, the narrative also gives insight into the various Chinese dynasties from which these arose. And also the provinces, like Jiangsu and Anhui, that were artistic centers.

I've not had much interaction with the study of Asian art and after much research I chose to begin with this text. It has a lot of great images and does a nice job of describing the social context of the different movements. I particularly liked the in depth coverage of painting which included the original aesthetic philosophies that motivated the artists. There is also a lot of attention paid to ceramics. The only thing that I wish was included was a visual time line. There are so many dynasties it is hard to keep them straight. If I was reading this for a class I would probably find it difficult to pinpoint the time different works were made in.

I purchased this book as my starting book for learning about art in China. The book has beautiful illustrations and outstanding examples of Chinese Art. The text is easy to read while being highly informative. The book traces the history of Chinese Art through the dynasties up to the present. I wouldn't think this is just for the novice. There is enough information here to create an excellent understanding of Chinese Art. This would have to be one of the top books on this topic.

this is the first art book exclusively on china that i've read. I chose this one because of the time range covered and the thoroughness of the different categories covered from calligraphy, painting, and pottery, to jade carving. the author has been teaching this for 20 years and this version is one of his older editions making it cheap. I was also looking at another book exclusively covering 3000 years of painting by one of the reviewers on the back cover of this book. an reviewer suggested that the pictures were overblown, out of focus and of course this text covered more subject matter rather than sticking with painting exclusively. the book includes a historical introduction on each time period covered, information on symbolism (a bit), and plenty of examples.

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