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Contents :

ART OF THE HAN PERIOD by Cary Liu and Susan Beningson. An article relating to highlights in two exhibitions in New York - 'Brilliant Artefacts from Shandong: Palace of the Afterlife in the Western Han Dynasty' at China Institute from 3 February to 4 June 2005 and 'Recarving China's Past: Art, Archaeology and Architecture of the Wu Family Shrines' at Princeton from 5 March to 25 June 2005.

THE GOURD OF LONG-LASTING HAPPINESS AND PROSPERITY - A NEW DEPARTURE FOR PORCELAIN DECORATION IN THE YUAN DYNASTY by Regina Krah. The author discusses how this blue-and-white vase represents one of the first attempts by a Jingdezhen artist of the Yuan period to decorate a three-dimensional porcelain surface with a greater degree of naturalism. It had been acquired by the British philanthropist, William Cleverley Alexander in 1900, when Yuan blue-and-white had not yet been identified in England.

THE ART OF THAILAND IN THE ASIAN ART MUSEUM by Forrest McGill, Chief Curator and Wattis Curator of South and Southeast Asian Art, Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. In preparing the exhibition 'The Kingdom of Siam: The Art Central Thailand' on view at the Asian Art Museum from 18 February to 8 May, the author has been able to reassess and reexamine examples in the museum's collection and compares them to those on loan for the show.

PURSUIITS OF POWER: FALCONRY IN EDO PERIOD JAPAN by Rachel Saunders Research Assistant, Japanese Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and curator of the exhibition 'Pursuits of Power: Falconry and the Samurai, 1600-1900' which opens at the museum on 17 December and runs until 10 June 2005. The author discusses how the rulers of Japan used the art of training and hunting with birds of prey to demonstrate and enforce their authority, and how falconry was an ideal subject for warriors seeking cultural legitimation through artistic vocabulary.

THE RICHARD LANE COLLECTION by Steven Little, Director of the Honolulu Academy of Arts. A discussion on some of the numerous examples of Japanese woodblock-printed books recently acquired by the Academy from one of the

world's most foremost scholars of Japanese art, particularly the ukiyo-e arts of the Edo period. Illustrated with works by Isoda Koryusai, Shiba Kokan, Kishi Renzan, Yanagawa Shigenobu, Tsukioka Yoshitoshi and Mifune Tsunade.

BEYOND THE OCEAN'S HORIZON by Shinya Maezaki. A discussion on the achievements of Fukami Sueharu, one of the most celebrated and decorated living artists in Japan who creates porcelain sculptures with qingbai glaze. Illustrated with examples in the Brooklyn Museum of Art and the Ruth and Sherman Lee Institute for Japanese Art.

INTERVIEW WITH HAB TOUCH, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL MUSEUM OF CAMBODIA.

OBITUARY FOR MA CHENGYUAN, former director of the Shanghai Museum by Jay Xu.

BOOK REVIEW

THE EUROPEAN FINE ART FAIR IN MAASTRICHT
THE ARTS OF PACIFIC ASIA SHOW IN NEW YORK
THE INTERNATIONAL ASIAN ART FAIR IN NEW YORK

COMMENTARY: PROTECTION OR RESTRICTION : America's role in safeguarding China's Cultural Property.
Kate Fitz Gibbon, James Cuno, Daniel Shapiro.

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