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Forever Jade

Chinese Jade Miniatures from Four Millennia

Edited by Alexandra von Przychowski

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- Showcases some 60 exquisite jade objects from the permanent collection of Museum Rietberg in Zurich, superbly photographed by Zurich-based photographer Felix Streuli
- The images in this carefully designed book make the objects shine in a unique way
- Enlarged details of the objects highlight their creators' fascinating craftmanship

Luminous, with a silken glow and soft to the touch, yet harder than steel, created by nature and shaped by human hand: no other material has been more highly valued in China for millennia than jade. Since humanity's earliest days, magical properties have been attributed to the mineral. As a burial gift it confers immortality and is said to improve health when given as medicine, as a talisman it bestows good fortune and protection. It is hardly surprising that jade objects became sought-after collectables as early as the 10th century.

Zurich's Museum Rietberg is home to an exquisite collection of Chinese jade objects spanning four millennia. In his striking images, Zurich-based photographer Felix Streuli brings them to life and makes them glow. The images reveal the most intricate details and make these works of art almost tangible to the viewer. This book features around 60 of Streuli's outstanding photographs, supplemented with concise texts on the objects they show and an introduction to the history of Chinese jade art. Interspersed short stories and poems revolving around the mythical gemstone and a reflection on the photographer's gaze round out this carefully designed picture book.

Text in English and German.

Alexandra von Przychowski is a scholar of art history and sinology and curator of Chinese art at the Museum Rietberg in Zurich.

Felix Streuli is a Zurich-based freelance photographer. The photographic staging of art objects is a special focus of his work, which has received numerous awards and has been shown in exhibitions.





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