



Unfurling Dragon

The Multicultural Art of Vietnam

Edited by Peter D. Sharrock

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- The most in-depth analysis of the development of Vietnam from Bronze Age, through the Nguyễn dynasties (erecting many of the temples modern day visitors would visit in Hue), through French colonialists to the modern day
- French colonial historians preserved and researched state annals in old demotic script and created the three world-class museums we have today in Hanoi, DaNang and Ho Chi Minh

Unfurling Dragon – The Multicultural Art of Vietnam is a companion volume to *From the Red River to the Mekong Delta* ISBN 9786164510722. A collection of over 20 essays from the world’s leading authorities on the art, history or archaeology of Vietnam. From the Bronze Age lowlanders who settled the Red River Valley, the technologically advanced people in the 10th century who stopped a Chinese fleet and declared sovereignty, a Buddhist state that would continue to expand southwards to dominate the long established and artistically advanced Hindu, Buddhist then Islamic culture of multiple ethnic Cam coastal settlements. Finally, in the 18th century the Nguyễn – Dynasty and absorbed the Khmer-Camic culture of the Mekong River Delta.

Peter D. Sharrock is a senior teaching fellow in the history of art and archaeology at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London and module co-convenor of the SOAS-Alphawood Postgraduate Diploma in Asian Art. He is a former journalist who covered the Vietnamese-American War. His books include *Vibrancy in Stone* and *Banteay Chhmar* for River Books and *Descending Dragon, Rising Tiger: A History of Vietnam* for Reaktion Books, amongst other titles.



Foreword
Peter D. Sharrock

The golden bronze sculpture of a standing figure, likely a deity or royal figure, is a masterpiece of Vietnamese art. It is a testament to the skill and artistry of the Vietnamese people, who have created some of the most beautiful and significant works of art in the world. This book is a celebration of that art, and a testament to the multicultural heritage of Vietnam.



1 | Pre-history of Southern Vietnam
Nguyen Khien Trung

The pre-history of Southern Vietnam is a complex and fascinating subject. It is a story of migration, adaptation, and the blending of different cultures. This chapter explores the early human presence in the region, from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age, and the impact of these early civilizations on the development of the region.



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