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La Chine

En miniature

Giorgio Antei

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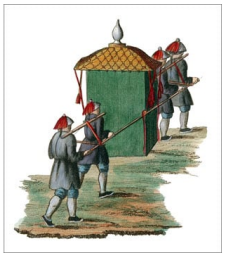
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Pages	200 Pages
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- 100 original drawings
- Many curious aspects of late 18th century China

Capturing the essence of late 18th-century China in a hundred miniatures seems an impossible task. Yet, on the orders of the French Minister of State, Bertin, the Chinese Catholic priests Aloys Ko and Etienne Yang completed the assignment, revealing a strange and fascinating world that was very distant from the West. The meticulous miniatures, accompanied by explanatory texts, were published in six small but exquisite volumes, appeared in France in 1811. This kaleidoscopic collection, exotic and popular at the same time, comes to life again in the pages of this volume, which brings together all the miniatures and the original French texts. The introduction, an essay by Hwee Lie Blehaut, gives an account of the historical and cultural climate in which the idea of*Chine en miniature* developed. Giorgio Antei's text instead focusses on the point of view of the foreigner and the "barbarian" in both the Western and Chinese cultures.

Text in English, French and Italian.







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