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Jade



Synopsis

Covers all the major and lesser-known areas for jade production.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This survey of jade use around the world is actually an anthology of essays by prominent scholars. First, a gemologist explains the mineralogy of jade. Then a series of essays on jade use in China, from prehistory to the present, takes up about half of the book. Finally, shorter essays address jade use in Japan, the South Pacific, Europe, Burma, India, and the Americas. Excellent photographs throughout the volume capture the visual qualities that make jade so appealing. The ambitiousness of its scope makes this survey a valuable addition to the jade literature, but the contributions of the authors vary so widely in method and tone that the volume lacks unity. Suitable for general readers, interested laypersons, and students, though scholarly readers may find some sections of interest.- Kathryn W. Finkelstein, M.Ln., CincinnatiCopyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

Five star all the way.

From this heavy tome, you will learn how artists "let the jade speak to them" before carving wondrous works of art. The properties of jade are perfect for carving because its molecular structure is tightly bound. Jade can suffer great detail in carving without cracking or chipping. Jade is either

nephrite or jadeite. Cheaper substitutes are bowenite and serpentine, so the buyer must beware. Keverne takes us on a jade "trip around the world" from the Pacific Rim to Mesoamerica. The latter finds are a great mystery, because no known source of jade in Central America is currently known to exist. The photographs in this book are tightly focused and glowing. Keverne continually displays his expertise in his subject. He includes an excellent index and bibliography. Like David Grimaldi's thorough book on amber (Amber: Window to the Past), this book is the authority on the subject of jade.

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Jade, by Roger Keverne, is a complete review of all the jades, all the deposits, all the mines, the history, (and with jade this is a long one.) the lore, the geology. Jade features a collection of articles by contributors from around the world, most members of the FRIENDS OF JADE, and all experts in their fields. Whenever I need to seek an answer, a representative photo, in short, anything in jade, here it is, in one book. If you are interested in jade, to sort out the truth from the rumors, the real from the fake..... this is THE jade book.

I study Jade Culture of the Orient and I use this reference for the good bibliography, and illustrations. It is an attempt by the now defunct 'Friends of Jade Society' to compile a comprehensive reference on jade and ancient and historical jade cultures from all over the world. For most of the world it is reasonably accurate, but unfortunately the Chinese section concerning jade has more errors than a freshman essay. This is even more embarrassing since most of the book is devoted to Chinese jade culture. A more detailed list and discussion of these errors and problems is available upon request.

Extremely great book on the subject of jade. Book even includes the very rare today "Wyoming Jade"...should be a book devoted to that subject.

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