

Oi Ling
Size : 215mm(width)x270mm(Height)

Text 撰文 : CMC Marketing & Production Team
Photos Source 图片来源: Oi Ling Fine Chinese Antiques

Antiques – Censers

History and Culture

The custom of incense burning first appeared in pre-Qin era in China, while the culture of censers can date back to Shang and Zhou dynasties. As incense containers, the value of censers consist mainly in the unique incense culture developed throughout hundreds of years. Meanwhile, with unique shapes and exquisite craftsmanship, this category of antiques also constitute a shining gem among various collections.

Ever since ancient times, incense burning – along with tea making, flower arrangement and illustrated painting – has been included among the “four artistic subjects for literati”. As a significant type of container for literati, censers were usually placed in their parlors or studies, creating delightful atmospheres, while comforting and cultivating their minds in large degree. Even today, we can still savor its profound cultural implications and connotations via looking back on history.

Collection and Appreciation

Collection values of censers vary according to their materials, craftsmanship and styles. Meanwhile, appreciating censers as antique collections is inseparable from their respective historical and cultural background. Take the Boshan Censer as an example – its featured shape and design, as well as the delicate decorations and ornaments are most closely associated with the prevailing culture of Taoism during that particular period.

Besides, as censers differ greatly in characteristics, personal preferences also count in large degree in defining their respective collection values, as observed by Meiling Chiang, owner of Oi Ling Fine Chinese Antiques. For instance, connoisseurs and collectors with a taste for quaint designs and unique appearance would most probably favor censer collections of pre-Tang eras.

Recommendation

With the popularity of incense burning among the upper class in early Han Dynasty, censers began to appear and develop. The silver-bronze censer collected by Oi Ling Fine Chinese Antiques is delicate in appearance, while exquisite in craftsmanship. Decorated by silver with fine elegant ornaments, its surface also reflects beautiful lusters of both the metals, making a precious gem among the special category of antique collections.



汉错银铜熏炉

文物鉴赏 · 博香炉中沉香火

溯历史 · 味文化

中国香炉文化的历史最早可以追溯到商周时代，室内熏香的习俗更是在先秦时代即已出现。香炉作为香具，其文化价值不仅在于香炉本身，更重要的是其历经数百年发展形成的一套完整的香文化。历朝历代独具特色、兼具实用与审美价值的香炉亦因此在诸种收藏中大放异彩。加之其精美的造型与纹饰，不失为文物收藏中的重要品类。

自古以来，焚香便与烹茶、插花、插画并称为文人四艺。香炉亦以此成为中国古代文人生活中的重要器物。一炉清香，置于厅堂或书房案头，不仅营造了美妙意境，同时带来心灵的慰藉。回溯历史，我们仍可从其中领略到其博大精深的文化内涵。

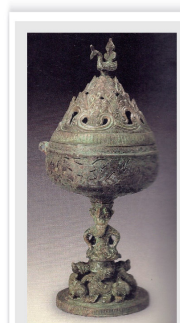
鉴赏品 · 话沉香

香炉作为藏品，其收藏价值因材质、工艺与风格而异。同时，香炉的收藏、品鉴离不开其历史、文化背景。例如汉晋时期的“博山炉”，其山峰形态的造型，精致的羽人、狩猎图案与独特的炉盖气孔设计，便与当时盛行的黄老道术不无相关。

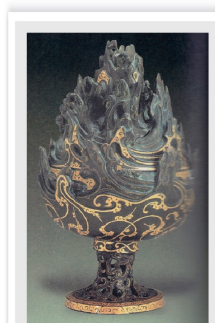
此外，燕誉堂店主蒋美玲认为，不同时期的香炉特色各异，收藏亦在很大程度上视乎个人喜好。例如喜欢外形独特、风格古朴的收藏爱好者，常会选择唐代以前的藏品。

店主推介

随着熏香在汉初贵族阶层间的广泛流行，专门用于熏香的熏炉亦随之出现。燕誉堂收藏这只汉初时代的错银铜熏炉，外形精美独特，制作技艺精湛。同时，错银工艺装饰的器物表面，呈现出银与青铜的不同光泽，堪称该品类之中的典藏精品。



汉羽人博山炉



错金铜博山炉

Oi Ling Fine Chinese Antiques

Address : 58 Hollywood Road, Central, Hong Kong

Tel : (+852) 2815 9422

Website : www.oilingantiques.com

燕誉堂

地址 : 香港中环荷里活道58号

电话 : (+852) 2815 9422

网址 : www.oilingantiques.com



店主蒋美玲