A SELECTION OF ORIENTAL WORKS OF ART

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A Selection of Oriental Works of Art by Various

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VARIOUS

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A Selection of

ORIENTAL WORKS of ART

On view at

SPINK & SON'S GALLERIES 5,6 & 7, King Street, St Jamess, LONDON, S.W.I.

ESTABLISHED

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UR previous Brochures on single series of Chinese Art-Jade. Lacquer, Cloisonné enamel, etc.-have met with so friendly a reception that we are led to hope the present more ambitious publication may receive an equal welcome from the ever-widening circle of those who have a love for things Oriental. 1

At no time has the interest of the West in Eastern works of art been so marked as at the present. Book follows book and, whether the subject be painting, pottery or sculpture, the call is still for more. The cynic may doubtless consider all this enthusiasm as but a passing whim, a fashionable fad, yet we venture the opinion he is wrong. Is not the cause rather to be found in a revolt from that restlessness which seems, alas, to be part and parcel of the very fibre of our civilization? A restlessness that,—as one, after hours of tossing, welcomes those first cool breezes ushering in the dawn,—irresistibly impels the mind, tired of new-fangled "isms," the capers of cubists, vorticists and what not, to appreciate as never before the satisfying beauty and quiet dignity of an Art that has essentially remained unchanged for three thousand years.

Careless of material reward but with hearts on fire with zeal for their craft, the men who made these things imparted to their work a certain quality, a "spirituality" difficult to define. As the ether wave ignores a solid, so is this quality independent of the medium employed and we feel its force whether it be in the haunting smile of a Queen of Heaven, all curves and tenderness expressed in ivory, the fragrant suggestion of Spring in porcelain decorated with singing birds on sprays of wild plum blossom, or the melting loveliness of a green jade vase mistry with clouds of lavender and rose. And once felt, it must be gratefully admitted that here at last is a work of art to be lived with, a thing of beauty that will sooth, rest and gratify.



251. White jade bowl and cover of superlative quality. This exquisite specimen is a masterpiece of supreme artistry and faultless technique.

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Early 18th Century.



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260. Pair of flower vases of unusual form carved in pale greenish white. Height 3f ins.
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262. Seated animal carved from a fine piece of white jade.

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