

## Recent Books from Hong Kong – Oct 2013

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### Art

Enchanted by Lohans : Osvald Siren's Journey into Chinese Art / Minna Torma  
Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2013  
xvii. 224p. ; 25cm.  
ISBN-13: 9789888139842  
\$ 45.00 / HB  
580 gm.

Finnish-Swedish art historian Osvald Sirén (1879–1966) was one of the pioneers of Chinese art scholarship in the West. This biography focuses on his four major voyages to East Asia: 1918, 1921–23, 1929–30 and 1935. This was a pivotal period in Chinese archaeology, art studies and formation of Western collections of Chinese art. Sirén gained international renown as a scholar of Italian art, particularly with his books on Leonardo da Vinci and Giotto. But when he was almost 40 years old, he was captivated by Chinese art (paintings of Lohans in the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston) to such an extent that he decided to start his career anew, in a way. He has left his mark in several fields in Chinese art studies: architecture, sculpture, painting and garden art.

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A Perpetual Fire : John C. Ferguson and His Quest for Chinese Art and Culture /  
Lara Jaishree Netting  
Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2013  
xii. 300p. ; 26cm.  
ISBN-13: 9789888139187  
\$ 45.00 / HB  
1010 gm.

After serving as a missionary and then foreign advisor to Qing officials from 1887 to 1911, John Ferguson became a leading dealer of Chinese art, providing the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Cleveland Museum of Art, and other museums with their inaugural collections of paintings and bronzes. In multiple publications dating to the 1920s and 1930s, Ferguson made the controversial claim that China's autochthonous culture was the basis of Chinese art. His two Chinese language reference works, still in use today, were produced with essential help from Chinese scholars. Emulating these "men of culture" with whom he lived and worked in Peking, Ferguson gathered paintings, bronzes, rubbings, and other artifacts. In 1934, he donated this group of over one thousand objects to Nanjing University, the school he had helped to found as a young missionary.

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## **Cinema Studies**

Wang Renmei : The Wildcat of Shanghai (with DVD of Wild Rose) / Richard J. Meyer

Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2013

xxv. 157p. ; 19cm.

ISBN-13: 9789888139965

\$ 30.00 / PB

402 gm.

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## **Economics**

Poverty in the Midst of Affluence: How Hong Kong Mismanaged Its Prosperity /Leo F. Goodstadt

Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, 2013

276p.; 23cm.

9789888208210

\$ 38.00 / HB

555gm.

Hong Kong is among the richest cities in the world. Yet over the past 15 years, living conditions for the average family have deteriorated despite a robust economy, ample budget surpluses and record labour productivity. Successive governments have been reluctant to invest in services for the elderly, the disabled, the long-term sick, and the poor, while education has become more

elitist. The political system has helped to entrench a mistaken consensus that social spending is a threat to financial stability and economic prosperity. In this trenchant attack on government mismanagement, Leo Goodstadt traces how officials have created a 'new poverty' in Hong Kong and argues that their misguided policies are both a legacy of the colonial era and a deliberate choice by modern governments, and not the result of economic crises. This provocative book will be essential reading for anyone wishing to understand why poverty returned to Hong Kong in this century.

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## History

A History of the Grant Schools Council : Mission, Vision, and Transformation / Patricia P.K. Chiu

Wanchai, Hong Kong: Grant Schools Council, 2013

x. 294p. ; 24cm.

ISBN-13: 9789881697325

\$ 38.00 / PB

448 gm.

"This is the definitive story of the oldest schools council in Hong Kong. It tells of the development of the grant schools from the early colonial years and their collective efforts since that time to provide a unique brand of quality education in Hong Kong. Specially, the Council's relationship with the Government makes fascinating reading. Highly recommended for educationalists, historians and general readers." — Dr Li Yuet Ting, CBE, JP, Director of Education (1987-1992), Hong Kong

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=156325>

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The Virgin Mary and Catholic Identities in Chinese History / Jeremy Clarke

Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2013

xiii. 275p. ; 24cm.

ISBN-13: 97898888139996

\$ 55.00 / PB

600 gm.

The Chinese Catholic Church traces its living roots back to the late sixteenth century and its historical roots back even further, to the Yuan dynasty. This book explores paintings and sculptures of the Virgin Mary and the communities that produced them over several centuries. It argues for the emergence of

distinctly Chinese Catholic identities as artistic representations of the Virgin Mary, at different times and in different places, absorbed and in turn influenced representations of Chinese figures from Guanyin to the Empress Dowager. At other times indigenous styles have been diluted by Western influences—following the influx of European missionaries in the nineteenth century, for example, or with globalization in recent years. The book engages with history, theology and art, and draws on imagery and archival photographs that have been largely neglected. As a study of the social and cultural histories of communities that have survived over many centuries, this book offers a new view of Catholicism in China—one that sees its history as more than simply a cycle of persecution and resistance.

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The Great Kanto Earthquake and the Chimera of National Reconstruction in Japan / J. Charles Schencking

Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2013

xxii. 374p. ; 24cm.

ISBN-13: 9789888208012

\$ 42.00 / HB

716 gm.

In September 1923, a magnitude 7.9 earthquake devastated eastern Japan, killing more than 120,000 people and leaving two million homeless. Using a rich array of source material, J. Charles Schencking tells for the first time the graphic tale of Tokyo's destruction and rebirth. In emotive prose, he documents how the citizens of Tokyo experienced this unprecedented calamity and explores the ways in which it rattled people's deep-seated anxieties about modernity. While explaining how and why the disaster compelled people to reflect on Japanese society, he also examines how reconstruction encouraged the capital's inhabitants to entertain new types of urbanism as they rebuilt their world.

Some residents hoped that a grandiose metropolis, reflecting new values, would rise from the ashes of disaster-ravaged Tokyo. Many, however, desired a quick return of the city they once called home. Opportunistic elites advocated innovative state infrastructure to better manage the daily lives of Tokyo residents. Others focused on rejuvenating society—morally, economically, and spiritually—to combat the perceived degeneration of Japan. Schencking explores the inspiration behind these dreams and the extent to which they were realized. He investigates why Japanese citizens from all walks of life

responded to overtures for renewal with varying degrees of acceptance, ambivalence, and resistance. His research not only sheds light on Japan's experience with and interpretation of the earthquake but also challenges widespread assumptions that disasters unite stricken societies, creating a "blank slate" for radical transformation. National reconstruction in the wake of the Great Kantō Earthquake, Schencking demonstrates, proved to be illusive.  
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=156327>

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Robert Morrison and the Protestant Plan for China / Christopher A. Daily  
Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2013  
xiii. 261p. ; 24cm.  
ISBN-13: 9789888208036  
\$ 60.00 / HB  
546 gm.

Sent alone to China by the London Missionary Society in 1807, Robert Morrison (1782–1834) was one of the earliest Protestant missionaries in East Asia. During some 27 years in China, Macau and Malacca, he worked as a translator for the East India Company and founded an academy for converts and missionaries; independently, he translated the New Testament into Chinese and compiled the first Chinese-English dictionary. In the process, he was building the foundation of Chinese Protestant Christianity.

This book critically explores the preparations and strategies behind this first Protestant mission to China. It argues that, whilst introducing Protestantism into China, Morrison worked to a standard template developed by his tutor David Bogue at the Gosport Academy in England. By examining this template alongside Morrison's archival collections, the book demonstrates the many ways in which Morrison's influential mission must be seen within the historical and ideological contexts of British evangelism. The result is this new interpretation of the beginnings of Protestant Christianity in China.  
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=156065>

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Poseidon: China's Secret Salvage of Britain's Lost Submarine /Steven R. Schwankert  
Hong Kong : Hong Kong University Press, 2013  
256p.; 33 b/w illus. 23cm.  
9789888208180  
\$ 40.00 / HB  
520gm.

Royal Navy submarine HMS Poseidon sank in collision with a freighter during routine exercises in 1931 off the Chinese coast. Thirty of its fifty-six-man crew scrambled out of the hatches as it went down. Of the twenty-six who remained inside, eight attempted to surface using an early form of diving equipment: five of them made it safely to the surface in the first escape of this kind in submarine history and became heroes. The incident was then forgotten, eclipsed by the greater drama that followed in World War II, until news emerged that, for obscure reasons, the Chinese government had salvaged the wrecked submarine in 1972. This lively account of the Poseidon incident tells the story of the accident and its aftermath, and of the author's own quest to discover the shipwreck and its hidden history.

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## Law

Hong Kong Taxation: Law & Practice 2013- 14 Edition /

Ayesha Macpherson Lau and Garry Laird

Hong Kong : Chinese University Press, 2013

944p.; 23cm.

9789629965662

\$ 43.00

The book covers the major areas of Hong Kong taxation—Property Tax, Salaries Tax, Profits Tax, Personal Assessment and Stamp Duty. It explains the principles and practice of taxation law with relevant tax cases, Board of Review decisions and contains numerous practical examples. The current edition includes the 2013-14 budget changes and the latest developments in taxation.

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## Literature

Scribes of Gastronomy : Representations of Food and Drink in Imperial Chinese Literature / Issac Yue and Siufu Tang (Editors)

Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2013

viii. 163p. ; 23cm.

ISBN-13: 9789888139989

\$ 25.00 / PB

268 gm.

The culture of food and drink occupies a central role in the development of Chinese civilization, and the language of gastronomy has been a vital theme in a range of literary productions. From stanzas on food and wine in the Classics of Poetry to the articulation of refined dining in *The Dream of the Red Chamber* and Su Shi's literary recipe for attaining culinary perfection, lavish textual representations help explain the unique appeal of food and its overwhelming cultural significance within Chinese society. These eight essays offer a colorful tour of Chinese gourmands whose work exemplifies the interrelationships of social and literary history surrounding food, with careful explication of such topics as the importance of tea in poetry, "the morality of drunkenness," and food's role in objectifying women.

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