

Horlyck

The Emergence of the Korean Art Collector and the Korean Art Market

Articulating the shifting interests in Korean art and offering new ways of conceiving the biases that initiated and impacted its collecting, this book traces the rise of the modern Korean art market from its formative period in the 1870s through to its peak and subsequent decline in the 1930s. The discussion centres on the collecting of Koryo celadon ceramics as they formed the focal point of commercial exchanges of Korean artefacts and explores how their acquisition and ownership formed part of the complex power relationship that played out between the Koreans, Japanese, Americans, and Europeans. Drawing on a wide range of primary sources, the volume analyses collectors' acquisition practices, arguing that their fascination with celadon ceramics from the Koryo kingdom (918-1392) was shaped not only by the aesthetic appeal of the objects, but also by biased perceptions of the Korean peninsula, its history, and people. The book will be of interest to scholars working in art history, social history, cultural history, Korean studies, collection studies, museum studies, Korean history, and Asian studies.

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165,50 €

154,67 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

vorbestellbar, Erscheinungstermin ca.
August 2024

Artikelnummer: 9780367860394

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-0-367-86039-4

Verlag: Taylor & Francis Ltd

Erscheinungstermin: 26.08.2024

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: 1. Auflage 2024

Serie: The Histories of Material Culture
and Collecting, 1700-1950

Produktform: Gebunden

Seiten: 256

Format (B x H): 174 x 246 mm

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01.08.2024 | 05:15 Uhr

