

# Culture and Art from the Divine Land: An Exhibition of Chinese Collections

## 来自神州大地的文化艺术—布朗大学中文馆藏特展

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It is not easy to exhibit the rich culture and art of China, a nation with the largest population and longest continuous history of civilization in the world. *Culture and Art from the Divine Land*, an exhibit which is part of Brown's Year of China, presents China through a "touching" approach. The exhibit displays not only books and pictures but also museum objects, bringing visitors in contact with the people and culture in China's "divine land." Special artifacts include bamboo slips of Confucius classics, Lao Tzu's tiny stone carved statue, popular Yangliuqing folk new year's paintings, muppet lions, cloth tigers, paper-cut arts on dragon, Qing Emperor's calligraphy scroll, paintings on the *Honglou meng* (Dream of Red Chamber), various styles of fans, Chinese ink and bush pens from renowned Rongbaozhai, Pu-er tea pie-package and pottery tea pot, Peking opera makeup, martial arts including Taiji (Tai Chi) books and swords, Chinese bamboo flutes and hulusi ("gourd silk" instrument) and more. In particular, the exhibit includes several award-winning examples of Chinese traditional painting by a 11-year old Chinese girl.

Museum objects on display are selected from the Library's East Asian Collection, Chinese Writers Signature Collection, Military Special Collection, and Curator Li Wang's private collection. Some of the exhibited objects were acquired during Dr. Wang's recent trip to China including gift books from Beijing Foreign Studies University's Scholars Selections in celebration of the BFSU's 70th anniversary. By highlighting features which especially link Brown to China, this exhibit explores the cultural exchange and understanding between the peoples from two great nations.

The exhibit locations include the Gammell Gallery, the North Gallery, Lobby Case and Reading Room Glass Cases in the John Hay Library.

Happy Chinese New Year of Dragon!