

# Ralph M. Chait Galleries INC.

CHINESE ART

ESTABLISHED 1910



SUMMER 2023



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We are pleased to present this summer booklet, filled with a variety of fine Chinese porcelain and works of art. Many of these pieces come from long-held private collections and are being first exhibited here after many decades. They represent examples both in Chinese taste, Chinese export, and the fascinating in between. Each object has a most interesting background and story to tell. Space limitation allows us to present just a glimpse of this here. We would be delighted to discuss any or more of these pieces with you in further detail.

Our gallery is open all summer. We welcome your visit and can always be reached by phone or email. In early August, we will again be exhibiting in the Nantucket Summer Antiques Show, and look forward to seeing many of you there!

Steven and Andrew Chait



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1. Fine Chinese Famille Rose Eggshell Porcelain Soup Plate

(ILLUSTRATED ON COVER)

YONGZHENG PERIOD, AD 1723-1735

Beautifully decorated with flowers and butterflies. All exquisitely painted.

Diameter: 8 ½ inches (21 cm.)

Ex Collection: Octave du Sartel- famed latter 19th century French Collector and early Western scholar on Chinese porcelain.

(Collection label to underfoot).

2. Chinese Imperial Famille Rose Porcelain Jar

QIANLONG PERIOD, WITH IMPERIAL MARK DATED 1756

Decorated with dragons amidst cloud and flame scrolls. The underfoot with a very rare date mark: *Qianlong Bingzi Nien Zhi*.

With wood cover with jade insert.

Height: 8 ¼ inches (21 cm.)

Ex: Private New York Collection

An almost identical jar and cover from the Blair Collection was sold at Christies, New York, March, 2014. A vase with similar dragon decoration is included in *Ethereal Elegance, Porcelain Vases of the Imperial Qing; the Huaihaitang Collection*, 2007, No. 123.

3. Chinese Famille Verte Soft  
Paste Porcelain Baluster Vase  
KANGXI PERIOD, AD 1662-1722

Decorated with reserves of figures  
in landscapes, animals, and  
Precious Antiques.

All painted upon a characteristic  
bright white ground.

Height: 18 inches (46 cm.)

Soft paste (*Hua Shih*) was a  
lighter weight porcelaneous  
material that was usually  
reserved for smaller objects.  
Larger examples from the  
Kangxi period were also made,  
usually by coating the outer  
surface of a porcelain vessel  
in soft paste, creating a canvas-  
like ground. The famous Jesuit  
Pere D'Entrecolles in his letter of  
1722 described this process that he  
observed at the Jingdezhen kilns.





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4. Fine Chinese Glazed Ribbed Jar with Handles

JIN DYNASTY,  
12TH/ 13TH CENTURY

Of fine form. Glazed overall in a beautiful deep brownish/black glaze with carefully delineated vertical ribs in slip along the exterior. Of particularly fine quality.

Height: 4 ½ inches (11.5 cm.)

Ex: Private American Collection  
Ex Collection: Dries Blitz, Holland  
A similar example is in the St. Louis Art Museum from the collection of Dr. and Mrs. Sherman Lee, and is illustrated and described by Mowry, *Hare's Fur, Tortoiseshell, and Partridge Feathers*, Harvard, 1995, No. 64.

5. Chinese Black Glazed Handled Gallipot/  
Martaban Type Vase

YUAN DYNASTY,  
CA: 13TH CENTURY

Of fine form. Glazed overall in an most handsome deep black.

Height: 9 ¼ inches (23.5 cm.)

Ex: Private American Collection  
Ex: Yamanaka and Company,  
New York

Purchased by the father of the current collector at the sale of the art objects belonging to Yamanaka in 1943, No. 649.



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6. Fine and Rare Geyao Glazed Porcelain *Hu* Vase

EARLY/ MID-18TH CENTURY

Based upon a Shang dynasty archaic bronze form; with attached tubular handles and raised archaic *taotieh* mask design. Glazed overall in a bluish gray with a fine iron wire/ golden thread crackle.

Height: 8 inches (20.2 cm.)

Ex: European Collection



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7. Chinese Blue and White Porcelain Deep Plate

KANGXI PERIOD,  
CA: LATE 17TH CENTURY

Decorated with battle scenes of the famed woman warrior Mulan. All painted in deep and vibrant underglaze blue.

Diameter: 12 ½ inches (32 cm.)

8. Chinese Blue and White Porcelain Potiche

KANGXI PERIOD,  
EARLY 18TH CENTURY

Decorated with an overall pattern of stylized palmettes, all finely painted in deep and varied tones. An unusual and very attractive pattern.

Diameter: 8 ½ inches (21.7 cm.)



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9. Pair of Blanc de Chine Porcelain Figures of Guanyin,  
EACH WITH IMPRESSED XU YUNLIN AND XU YUYUAN MARKS,  
LATE QING/EARLY REPUBLIC PERIOD

Each finely modelled in the full round; the Guanyin seated upon a lotus throne. All superbly detailed with meticulous embellishments of extraordinary detail and quality.

Height: 13 inches (33 cm.)

Ex: American Collection



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### 10. Rare Large Chinese Imari Porcelain Charger

KANGXI PERIOD,  
EARLY 18TH CENTURY

Finely decorated with a central reserve of fish, surrounded by exuberant floral designs, all painted in deep enamel colors and underglaze blue. The decoration is much influenced by Japanese designs of the period, as both countries were vying for the European market.

Diameter: 18 ½ inches (47 cm.)

We have seen the type of decoration on the interior of bowls but never as the sole design on a large plate. Related vases and porcelains may be found in important historic European collections such as that of Augustus the Strong, now in the Zwinger Museum, Dresden.



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11. Chinese Famille Verte Glazed Porcelain Teapot

KANGXI PERIOD, AD 1662-1772

Of bamboo form. Decorated with small reserves of flowers and birds. All beautifully painted in bright enamels.

Height: 5 ¼ inches (13.5 cm.)

Similar and related examples: Taft Museum, Victoria & Albert Museum, Zwinger Museum, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.



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12. Pair of Chinese Blue and White Porcelain Gu Vases

KANGXI PERIOD, AD 1662-1722

Decorated with reserves of landscapes and flowering trees and rockeries. All beautifully painted in deep underglaze blue.

Height: 17 ¾ inches (45 cm.)

Ex Collection: George Eumorfopoulos, England (1863-1939).

One with collection label on the underfoot. Both are described and one illustrated in the catalogue of the collection by Hobson, 1926, Vol. V, Pl. 2, E6.



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### 13. Fine Pair of Chinese Sancai Glazed Figural Rooftiles

MING DYNASTY, CA: 16TH / 17TH CENTURY

Finely modelled in the full round. Each depicting a Daoist deity standing amidst clouds, and dressed in a long robe and ornate hat of rank, and carrying a *gwei*.

Height: 16 and 17 inches with bases  
(40.5 and 43 cm.)

Ex: Private European Collection from the 1960's  
With fitted wood bases.



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#### 14. Rare Chinese Sancai/ Famille Verte Porcelain Garden Seat

KANGXI PERIOD,  
CA: THIRD QUARTER  
17TH CENTURY

Of broad cylindrical drum-shaped form, with open "cash" designs around the sides, further embellished with lion heads, and raised bosses. The top, decorated with horses leaping over swirling waves, and with additional Precious Things, all set against a deep green background. This is a rare form, and the horse decoration on the top adds to the rarity, as this type of decoration is mostly observed on bowls and plates from this period.

Height: 13 ½ inches (34.5 cm.)

#### 15. Chinese Famille Verte Porcelain Chocolate Pot

KANGXI PERIOD,  
CA: EARLY 18TH CENTURY

Of unusual larger size. Decorated with a primordial seascape showing a water dragon and flaming pearl beneath swirling waves. All finely painted in bright enamels. The decoration is a very specific Chinese decoration on a piece that is otherwise a fully export form.

Height: 7 inches (18 cm.)



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16. Chinese Carved Spinach  
Jade Figure of Guanyin

19TH CENTURY

Posed standing and holding a  
beaded necklace and a scroll.

Of impressive size; the stone of  
lovely dark mottled green tone.

With fitted well carved wood base.

Height: 15 inches (38 cm.)

Ex Collection: William Goadby Loew  
and his wife Florence Baker Loew  
(financier and collector from the early  
1900's); then descended in the family.

17. Fine Chinese Deep Sacrificial  
Blue Glazed Gourd Vase

CA: EARLY/MID-18TH  
CENTURY

Of fine form. The underfoot with  
apocryphal Xuande mark, Ming  
dynasty.

Height: 9 ¼ inches (23.5 cm.)

Ex Collection: William Goadby Loew  
and his wife Florence Baker Loew  
(financier and collector from the early  
1900's); then descended in the family.

18. Chinese Export Silver Teaset

MARKS: WH 90 AND  
IDEOGRAM

CA: LATE 19TH/ EARLY 20TH  
CENTURY

Of lovely form and impressive  
weight. Beautifully decorated in  
repousse with a scene of a Chinese  
wedding. With great detailing, and  
the figures with distinct features.

Height of Teapot: 5 ½ inches  
(14 cm.)

Ex Collection: John D. Kernan  
(contributing author to *Chinese Export  
Silver*, by Forbes et al, 1975 and author  
of *The Chait Collection of Chinese Export  
Silver*, 1985).



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**19. Chinese Famille Rose Export Porcelain Hunt Bowl**

QIANLONG PERIOD,  
CA: THIRD QUARTER 18TH  
CENTURY

Decorated with a scene of an English fox hunt based upon an engraving by Pierre Charles Canot and Thomas Burford, after a James Seymour painting.

Diameter: 11 ¼ inches (28.5 cm)  
Height: 4 ¾ inches (12.2 cm)

An almost identical example is in the British Museum (Franks Collection)

**20. Very Rare Chinese Sancai Glazed Biscuit Porcelain Figure of Erlang Shen**

IMMORTAL WARRIOR FOR  
RIGHTEOUSNESS AND JUSTICE;  
AND CONTROLLER OF FLOODS

KANGXI PERIOD, AD 1662-1722

Posed seated upon a throne, and dressed in fish scale armor and official hat. Erlang Shen was a son of the Jade Emperor, and distinctive with a third eye on his forehead said to perceive truth from falsehood, and was a source of supernatural power. A rare figure in porcelain from this period.

With early carved wood base with metal identifying inscription.

Height with base: 10 inches (25.5 cm.)

Possibly from the George Davies Collection (or with Edgar Gorer), who had other porcelain figures with this type of distinctive wood base.



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21. Pair of Chinese Rose Verte Quadrangular Porcelain Vases and Bases

YONGZHENG, AD 1723-1735

Each side decorated with a figural scene taken from a historic tale. All finely painted; the borders in black (also rare) and patterned designs. Each with original separate porcelain base. Height: 13 ½ inches (34.4 cm.)

Ex Collection: William Whitridge, Baltimore early 1900's.

Exhibited: *The Whitridge Collection of Chinese Pottery and Porcelain* at the Baltimore Museum of Art, June 1 - October 15, 1930, No. 127.

Illustrated and described in the catalogue of the exhibition (forward written by Ralph M. Chait).



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## 22. Chinese Reverse Glass Painting, *Sappho*

CA: 1810

Of superb quality. Directly based upon a Western print of Richard Westall's painting: *The Artist's Wife as Sappho* (now at the National Museums Liverpool). The print was brought to China and copied in Canton onto glass in the reverse glass method.

With period gilt frame.

Size: 19 ½ inches x 14 ½ inches (49.5 x 36.8 cm.)

Framed: 23 ½ x 18 ¼ inches (60 x 47.5 cm.)

Illustrated and described: Carl Crossman, *The China Trade*, 1972, Plate 110.

Sappho was a famous Greek lyric poet (ca. 620-550 BC) particularly known for her evocative love poetry. She became a popular Victorian icon focused on her open expression of physical love. Paintings of her from the period depict her as a voluptuous young woman.