

Details of the Mallet vase B60P1237



Scene of Three Gods of Longevity, Emoluments, and Happiness, on the neck of the vase.



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Scene of warriors before battle, on the body of the vase.

Porcelain

The Chinese term *ci* encompasses all high-fired ceramics. To be called *ci*, a ceramic object must produce a musical note when struck. Among such objects is a class of wares known in the West as porcelains. Porcelain is created from kaolin (a hard, white clay) and *petuntse* (white china stone). When combined in the proper proportions and fired at high temperatures, these two materials create a glass-like, semitranslucent body. Porcelains are usually finished with a transparent glaze that is white or clear.

The Chinese began to produce high-fired, glazed wares more than three thousand years ago. The technology developed slowly over the following millennium. The kiln designs, mastery of firing temperatures, and understanding of clays and glazes necessary to produce *ci* were fully developed during the first three centuries of the Common Era by potters in Zhejiang province in the lower Yangtze River valley. These potters produced very high-fired stoneware with green and brown glazes. In the middle of the 500s, changes in taste and in the locations of ceramic centers led to the production of white-bodied wares in northern China, and this production increased during the following century. Beginning in the 700s, advanced kiln technologies were applied to these wares to produce high-quality porcelains. Porcelain was one of China's great contributions to world ceramics, and it supplanted silk in importance as a trade material.

Around a thousand years ago, the Chinese ceramics industry became aware that the perfect combination of materials for producing a pure porcelain body could be found near what is now Jingdezhen in Jiangxi province. By the 1300s the Jingdezhen kilns dominated porcelain production, and they continue to do so in modern times. Examples of these wares can be seen in the Chinese galleries on this floor.



折枝花卉紋菱口盤 明永樂朝
景德鎮青花瓷

Plate with eight-foamate rim

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Ming dynasty, reign of the Yongle emperor (1403–1424)
Porcelain with underglaze blue decoration

Gift of Roy Leventritt, B69P6L

This high-quality porcelain reflects the successful revival of porcelain manufacture in Fuliang (Jingdezhen) brought about by Emperor Yongle. All porcelain articles for the court had to follow extremely precise restrictions through a seventy-two-step production process, from extracting earth and purifying clay to potting, glazing, decorating, loading the sagger (a clay box), and firing.



刻花鏤空球形香熏 宋代
景德鎮青花瓷

Spherical incense burner with latticed cover

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Song dynasty (960–1279)

Porcelain with molded and carved decoration under glaze

The Avery Brundage Collection, B60P1764

With a round shape, neatly executed lattice openwork, and two-layer serrated pedestal, this incense burner is a rare Song porcelain piece. Its high-quality clay helped prevent its spherical, hollow form from cracking or deforming during the high-firing process.



胭脂紅釉杯 清雍正朝 景德鎮單色釉瓷
Cup

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Yongzheng emperor (1723–1735)

Porcelain with glaze

The Avery Brundage Collection, B60P2089

Glazes make a fired work impervious to liquids and give it a durable surface. Colorful glazes give visual interest to ceramic ware. No glaze, however, can make an unsuccessfully formed shape into a piece of beauty. This delicate cup is glazed in rose pink, which is applied thinly, allowing the texture of the clay to be visible when the cup is held up to light.

Treasures of the Scholar's Studio



ON SHELF
天臺山靈芝松鶴玉軒款筆筒 明末清初
竹根
Brush holder with motifs of longevity
Approx. 1600–1644
Inscribed with Jade Studio Yuxuan
China
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)
Bamboo root
The Avery Brundage Collection, B62M53



ON SHELF
山茶梅花桃枝鹿鶴仙境杯 明晚期 犀角
Goblet with openwork flower design
Approx. 1600
China
Ming dynasty (1368–1644)
Rhinoceros horn
The Avery Brundage Collection, B65M21
Rhinoceros-horn cups are judged on the basis of age, quality of carving, color, and the amount of material utilized to create them. Because they are less practical to use, cups in the shape of the original rhinoceros horn, like this one, are of greatest rarity.



ON WALL
松下賢者小像 清代 象牙雕紫檀座
Old sage under pine trees
China
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)
Ivory and wood
The Avery Brundage Collection, B70M13



牡丹花枝小水丞 清康熙朝
景德鎮釉里紅加釉上彩繪瓷
Water container
China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Kangxi emperor (1662–1722)
Porcelain with underglaze red and overglaze multicolor decoration
The Avery Brundage Collection, B60P1346
This water dipper (or brush washer) exemplifies the scholarly objects produced under the patronage of the Kangxi emperor. The peony branches that have underglaze red blossoms with overglaze green leaves, outlined in ink, represent a new style of decoration produced at the imperial shop in Jingdezhen.



雙桃紋印泥蓋盒 清雍正朝
景德鎮粉彩瓷
Covered box for seal paste
China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Yongzheng emperor (1723–1735)
Porcelain with overglaze multicolor decoration
The Avery Brundage Collection, B60P2323
This box is designed to store seal paste. Seal paste, which contains cinnabar in various shades of red, is used for the seals often found on paintings or calligraphies. A seal is pressed into the paste to pick up the color and then is stamped onto the work. The oily paste is kept in covered boxes to retain moisture and to prevent accidents.



長方架鼓形印章 清代 象牙
Seal in the form of a drum
China; Yixing, Jiangsu province
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)
Ivory
The Avery Brundage Collection, B72M58



長方仿竹節印章 清代 玉石
Seal in the form of bamboo
China
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)
Nephrite
Bequest of Gerard R. Pomerat, 2010.415



龍鳳飛雲雙管瓶 近代 玉石
Vase with dragon and phoenix

Approx. 1900–1940s
China

Late Qing dynasty (1644–1911) or early
Republic period (1912–1949)

Nephrite

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60J829

Consisting of two vases with heavenly
symbols, this jade object serves multiple
functions: brush washer, paperweight,
and decoration for a scholar's desk.
The dragon and phoenix are symbols of
heavenly deities and convey a popular
wish for blessings and good fortune.



仿宋官釉荷葉蓮蓬形筆搥 清代
景德鎮灰藍釉開片瓷

Dish in the form of a lotus seedpod

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)

Porcelain with crackled glaze

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P1467

Ink and colors were diluted with water in
vessels like this to control the application
of the brush. The ingenious design here
combines two components into a lotus:
one is a water container resembling a
seedpod, and the second is a palette
with two wells in the shape of petals.



印花夔龍團紋太白尊 清康熙朝
景德鎮紅釉瓷

**Water container with dragon
designs**

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Kangxi
emperor (1662–1722)

Porcelain with modeled design under
glaze

The Avery Brundage Collection, B60P5+

This water container's round body
expands into a broad base that allows
scholars to wash brushes for painting
and writing. Around the body are
circular designs in shallow relief, each
enclosing a twisted dragon.



仿明宣德雙雲龍國寶款橢圓墨 清晚期
墨漬

Oval inkstick

China

Qing dynasty (1644–1911)

Composite material with lacquer and gold
The Avery Brundage Collection, B67M4

To make an inkstick, a mixture of carbon
powder, pine resin, glutinous rice, and
other ingredients is poured into wooden
molds and allowed to solidify. This
inkstick is impressed with the inscription
“National Treasure” within clouds on one
side and two dragons on the back.



山林觀湖景硯盒 清乾隆朝 景德鎮黃釉瓷
Inkstone with cover

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Qianlong
emperor (1736–1795)

Porcelain with carved decoration under
glaze

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P452

Inkstones can be made of stone, jade,
or ceramic. Regardless of medium,
each inkstone has a well for water and
a smooth flat surface on which ink is
made by grinding an inkstick in water.
The lakeside scene on this porcelain
cover was a favorite subject for China's
educated elite.



帶蓋小水盂 清乾隆朝 景德鎮青釉瓷
Water container

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Qianlong
emperor (1736–1795)

Porcelain with glaze

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P1734

Created in a style that reflects imperial
ceramics of the Song dynasty (960–
1279), this lidded jar was used to hold
water or ink. Green symbolizes jade, a
traditional symbol of immortality and
cosmic power.

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Motifs for Blessings

The Chinese word *fu* (福), translated as blessings or happiness, encompasses all that is auspicious in life. Foremost among the motifs related to blessings is the bat, also pronounced *fu* (蝠) but written with a different character. Many other traditional symbols for blessings, such as the Buddha's-hand citron and the sheep, extend their cultural context to popular beliefs and the cult of Daoism.

1

五福八仙(五蝠、八桃)紋盤 清乾隆朝
景德鎮粉彩瓷

Plate with peaches and bats

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Qianlong
emperor (1736–1795)

Porcelain with overglaze multicolor
decoration

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P1707

The five bats (two on the back of the
plate) stand for the Five Blessings—
longevity, wealth, health, love of virtue,
and a peaceful death.

2

萬福擺件 清代 玉石

Bat carrying a swastika

China; approx. 1900

Qing dynasty (1644–1911)

Nephrite

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60J166

The bat carries a swastika, the symbol of
ten thousand, portraying a wish for ten
thousand blessings.

3

壽山福海(飛蝠、桃樹、海濤)紋小碟
清雍正朝 景德鎮門彩瓷

Saucer with birthday greeting

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Yongzheng
emperor (1723–1735)

Porcelain with underglaze blue and
overglaze multicolor decoration

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P1579

The decoration here forms two visual
puns: “May your blessings be as deep
as the eastern sea” and “May you live to
be as old as the southern mountain.”

4

如意 清代 紫檀嵌玉石

Wish-granting wand

Approx. 1800–1900

China

Qing dynasty (1644–1911)

Hardwood and nephrite

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60J499

This wand, bearing a head that
resembles the *lingzhi* mushroom (the
fungus of immortality), is basically a
wishing wand, suggesting “May all your
wishes come true.”

5

佛手水盛寓意福壽 清代 玉石

Buddha's hand citron

Approx. 1800–1900

China

Qing dynasty (1644–1911)

Nephrite

Gift of an anonymous donor, B69J1

The name of this fruit (*foshou* 佛手)
has almost the same pronunciation as
the words for blessings (*fu* 福) and
longevity (*shou* 壽).

6

三多(多福多壽多子;佛手、桃、石榴)花插
清代 玉石

The Three Plenties

Approx. 1800–1900

China

Qing dynasty (1644–1911)

Nephrite

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60J327

The Buddha's-hand citron, peach, and
pomegranate together form a pictorial
pun for the Three Plenties (Three
Abundances), implying a wish for an
abundance of blessings, longevity, and
sons.

7

百事如意(百合、柿子)擺件 近代 玉石

**Fungus, lily, persimmons, and oval
box**

Approx. 1900–1940

China

Chalcedony (partially carnelian)

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B65J5.a-b

The lily, the persimmon, and the wand
with a mushroom head *ruyi* (a pun on
“as you wish”) form the four-character
idiom: “May a hundred of your wishes
come true.”

8

三陽(羊)開泰新年鴻運 近代 玉石

Three sheep

Approx. 1900–1910

China

Qing dynasty (1644–1911)

Nephrite

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60J397

Vapor rises from the mouth of the large
sheep, amassing as a cloud formation
on its back and supporting the *taiji*
(*yin-yang*) emblem. The sheep and the
taiji form a pictorial pun to express the
desire that the New Year will bring in
prosperity.

Motifs for Prosperity

The Chinese words for deer, official salary, benefits, and emoluments all share the same sound *lu*. Images of the deer, for example, symbolize good wishes for a government title with a high rank and salary. Such symbols of prosperity and glory related to educated men serving or hoping to serve the court by passing the civil service examinations.

9

玉堂富貴(牡丹玉蘭)二甲歸錦(蟹、錦雞)
紋盤 清康熙朝 景德鎮五彩瓷

Octagonal plate

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Kangxi
emperor (1662–1722)

Porcelain with overglaze multicolor
decoration

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P1127

Depictions of the peony and white
magnolia convey: “May your noble
house be blessed with wealth and
honor.” The colorful birds and double
crabs indicate: “May you have a bright
future with a high rank.”

10

指日高升圖盤 明天啟朝 景德鎮青花瓷
Dish

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Ming dynasty, reign of the Tianqi
emperor (1621–1627)

Porcelain with underglaze blue
decoration

*Effie B. Allison Collection, Gift of J. V.
West and B. V. Gewald*, B81P7

Pointing at the sun signifies a wish for
imminent elevation to the rank of marquis.

11

二甲傳臚(螃蟹蘆葦)荷葉筆搨 清雍正朝
景德鎮粉彩瓷

Ink palette with motif of two crabs

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Yongzheng
emperor (1723–1735)

Porcelain with overglaze multicolor
decoration

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P2368

An image of two crabs clinging to a
stalk of grain is a visual pun signifying
a wish for a high score on the final civil
service examination.

12

連生貴子(蓮、笙、桂枝)萬代繁衍圖屏
近代 景德鎮粉彩瓷

Plaque with boys at play

Approx. 1900–1949

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Porcelain with overglaze multicolor
decoration

*Bequest of Drs. Ben and A. Jess
Shenson*, 2002.26

The sweet olive tree (*guihua*, also a
homophone for “noble blossoms”) on
the left of this plaque proclaims that
all the boys under the tree are “noble
sons,” who will pass their civil service
examinations with flying colors and
bring honor to their families.

13

連生貴子(嬰戲荷花)圖果盤 明萬曆朝
景德鎮青花瓷

**Compartmented covered dish with
boys at play**

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Ming dynasty, reign of the Wanli
emperor (1573–1620)

Porcelain with underglaze blue
decoration

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P251.a-.b

A depiction of boys playing various
games implies a wish for the owner of
the vessel to bear numerous sons.

14

馬上封侯(馬、蜂、猴)擺件 清代 玉石
Monkey riding a horse

Approx. 1800–1900

China

Qing dynasty (1644–1911)

Nephrite

The Avery Brundage Collection, B64J5

The monkey riding on a horse is a
pictorial pun for “May you immediately
be elevated to the rank of marquis!”

15

鹿祿蓋盒 清末民初 玉石
Box in the shape of a deer

Approx. 1900–1949

China

Nephrite

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B62J57.a-.b

The deer, whose character *lu* (鹿) is
pronounced the same as the character
for salary (*lu* 祿), is a pun for wealth
and rank. This box therefore conveys a
wish for high rank and great wealth.

16

功名富貴(公雞牡丹)圖紋杯碟 清雍正朝
景德鎮粉彩瓷

**Teacup and dish depicting flowers,
rock, and animals**

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Yongzheng
emperor (1723–1735)

Porcelain with overglaze multicolor
decoration

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B70P30.a-.b

The rooster among peony blossoms and
rocks conveys: “May you be granted
official rank and honors.”

17

童子戲如意、算盤、書劍、元寶圖紋小碟
清代 銅胎畫琺瑯

**Square dish with a scene of a boy
playing with lucky symbols**

China

Qing dynasty (1644–1911)

Brass with enamel

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P2200

An infant holding a wish-granting wand
plays with an abacus, a book, a sword,
and an ingot. These motifs imply two
wishes: “It will be as you wish” and “To
achieve all in academics, martial arts,
and fortune.”

18

劉海佩錢戲蟾像 清末 景德鎮五彩瓷
**Figure of the deity Liu Hai and his
toad**

Approx. 1850–1900

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)

Porcelain with overglaze multicolor
decoration

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P1497.a

Liu Hai, the god of wealth, dances on
his three-legged toad while waving
a string of coins. The Chinese word
for toad and frog, *wa*, is a pun for dig.
Together with the images of Liu Hai and
coins, the subject matter is associated
with the desire for seeking wealth, as in
digging for treasures.

Motifs for Longevity

In the Chinese religion and practice of Daoism, some advanced practitioners of the Way (*dao*) tried to attain immortality. Many Daoist deities were worshiped as divine saints, protectors of life, and granters of longevity. Beginning their lives as human beings, they underwent a spiritual and physical transformation and were believed to attain a perfect existence as adepts or immortals. In their meditative practice and daily diet, certain natural ingredients, believed to confer health and longevity, functioned as symbols of immortality.

19

道教張天師布陣圖瓷片 明成化朝
景德鎮青花瓷

**Plaque with Daoism's founder
Zhang Tianshi and his attendants**

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Ming dynasty, reign of the Chenghua
emperor (1465–1487)

Porcelain with underglaze blue
decoration

Gift of Roy Leventritt, B69P25L

The central figure is Zhang Tianshi, the founder of Daoism, who established the religion and philosophy with a focus on perfecting the self in order to attain immortality.

20

麻姑獻壽圖紋盤 清康熙朝
景德鎮五彩瓷

**Dish decorated with Magu, goddess
of longevity**

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Kangxi
emperor (1662–1722)

Porcelain with overglaze multicolor
decoration

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P376

Chinese women prayed to goddess
Magu, identified by the gardening
hoe and a basket of the fungus of
immortality, for long life.

21

麻姑獻壽福 (桃、鹿、綬帶鳥) 清晚期
玉石

Daoist goddess Magu

1800–1911

China

Qing dynasty (1644–1911)

Nephrite

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60J119

Magu (“Hemp Lady”), the Daoist goddess of longevity, is represented with various attributes: a peach tree, a long-tailed bird, and a deer carrying a basket of peaches and wearing a brocade textile decorated with the character for longevity. All these motifs are associated with prosperity and long life.

22

群仙供壽圖紋葫蘆壁瓶 明崇禎朝
景德鎮青花瓷

**Wall vase with the Eight Daoist
Immortals and Shoulao, god of
longevity**

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Ming dynasty, reign of the Chongzhen
emperor (1628–1644)

Porcelain with underglaze blue
decoration

Gift of Roy Leventritt, B69P111L

Arriving on his crane, the god of longevity is greeted by the Eight Immortals, each representing iconic symbols for eternal life.

23

芝仙祝壽 (靈芝水仙天竺壽石) 紋盤
清雍正朝 景德鎮鬥彩瓷

**Plate with symbols for celebrating
birthday and long life**

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Yongzheng
emperor (1723–1735)

Porcelain with underglaze blue and
overglaze multicolor decoration

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P192

The fungus, narcissus, nandina, and rocks together form the auspicious phrase, “Fungus fairy offers birthday greetings!”

24

靈芝形筆掬 清乾隆朝 景德鎮藍釉瓷

Ink palette in the shape of a fungus

China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Qianlong
emperor (1736–1795)

Porcelain with bluish glaze and crackles
The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60P2051

Lingzhi, the fungus of immortality, is also a wish-fulfilling symbol because the head of the wish-granting wand *ruyi* resembles the fungus in shape.

25

鶴鹿同春、喜福雙降 (蝠、鹿、松、喜鵲)
圖紋手爐 清代 銅胎畫琺瑯

**Handwarmer with deer, cranes, and
pine trees**

China

Qing dynasty (1644–1911)

Enamel on metal

The Avery Brundage Collection,
1999.34.a–c

The creatures and birds here form several pictorial rebuses implying prosperity, happiness, and longevity.

26

耄耋 (貓、蝶) 擺件 清末民初 玉石

Cat with kitten and butterfly

Approx. 1850–1949

China

Qing dynasty (1644–1911) or Republic
period (1912–1949)

Nephrite

The Avery Brundage Collection, B69J13

The word for cat (*mao* 貓) sounds like the word for an aged person (*mao* 耄), while the word for butterfly (*die* 蝶) shares the sound with the word for an elderly person in their eighties (*die* 耋). Together they form a visual pun for longevity.

27

福壽如意 (靈芝松鶴) 擺件 近代 石英

**Brush container in the shape
of a tree trunk with fungus of
immortality**

Approx. 1900–1940

China

Quartz

The Avery Brundage Collection,
B60J171

This container set is carved in the shape of a pine tree and crane, with a bat hovering over a clump of the fungus of immortality, to construct the visual pun (rebus): “May you have blessings and longevity, and may all your wishes come true.”

Motifs for Happiness

The character for joy or happiness (*xi* 喜) is associated with pleasant events, such as weddings and the arrival of newborn sons. Throughout Chinese history, boys were regarded as vital to the preservation of the patriliney, because they would carry on the family name and continue to worship ancestors. In imperial society, men of the educated class sacrificed their childhood for the study of the classics, and their success in the civil service exams brought the greatest imaginable joy to the family.

28

母子團圓和諧圖盤 清康熙朝
景德鎮五彩瓷

Plate with mother and her son
China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Kangxi emperor (1662–1722)
Porcelain with overglaze multicolor decoration
The Avery Brundage Collection, B60P243

The central scene depicts a mother and her son surrounded by crabs, shrimps, and vases of lotus and peony. This scene conveys: “May your family have numerous descendants, harmony, nobility, and happiness.”

29

雙蝶(疊)圍喜鏤空佩飾 清代 玉石
Circular plaque with butterflies flanking the character for happiness
1800–1900
China
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)
Nephrite
Gift of R. W. Winskill in Memory of Lionel H. Pries, B86J16

30

幸臨春宴(杏林、燕)圖紋盤 清康熙朝
景德鎮五彩瓷

Plate with swallows and apricot blossoms
China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty, reign of the Kangxi emperor (1662–1722)
Porcelain with overglaze multicolor decoration
The Avery Brundage Collection, B60P1534
Swallows and apricot blossoms shown together form a visual pun (rebus) implying that success in the final level of the civil service examination shall be honored by an invitation to attend the spring banquet.

31

荷塘鴛鴦紋碗 清雍正朝 景德鎮斗彩瓷
Bowl decorated with mandarin ducks and lotus
China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province, Qing dynasty, reign of the Yongzheng emperor (1723–1735)
Porcelain with underglaze blue and overglaze multicolor decoration
The Avery Brundage Collection, B60P1425
Mandarin ducks are traditional motifs for a harmonious marriage. They usually swim among lotus plants, representing harmony in marriage as well as many sons.

32

六方喜慶雙聯(喜字、石磬、繩紋)圖樽 清嘉慶朝 玉石
Imperial spittoon with rope pattern
China
Qing dynasty, reign of the Jiaqing emperor (1796–1820)
Nephrite
The Avery Brundage Collection, B60J426
The sides are decorated with the character for joy (*xi* 喜) and images of stone chimes (*qing*), forming a pun for “joyful celebration” (*xiqing*).

33

和合二仙(寒山拾得)蓮瓣擺件 清代 玉石
Two monks in a lotus petal boat
1700–1800
China
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)
Nephrite
The Avery Brundage Collection, B60J452
Two jolly beings—Hanshan, paddling a boat using a broom, and Shide, holding a fan—were poet-monks of the Tang dynasty (618–907) and regarded as the patron saints of harmony.

34

喜上眉梢(喜鵲登梅)圖瓶 清代 景德鎮五彩瓷
Bottle vase with magpies and plum blossoms
China; Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)
Porcelain with overglaze multicolor decoration
The Avery Brundage Collection, B60P2+

35

子孫萬代繁衍和諧鴨形蓋盒 清代 玉石
Mandarin duck container
1700–1800
China
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)
Nephrite
The Avery Brundage Collection, B60J975.a–.b
Ducks are thought to mate for life. This container was once a wedding present expressing a wish that the couple have a long and harmonious marriage.

36

喜上眉梢圖紋瓶 清代 套色玻璃
Vase with magpies and plum tree
1700–1800
China
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)
Glass
Gift of Ashkenazie and Company, 1988.37.1
Magpies shown together with the plum tree form the pictorial pun “happiness up to one’s eyebrows,” because the Chinese words for eyebrow and plum tree share the pronunciation *mei*. This is a typical Chinese expression meaning one is happy indeed!

PLEASE DO NOT
REMOVE FROM
THE GALLERY

Snuff Bottles

The Chinese specially designed bottles to hold snuff—a preparation of powdered tobacco enhanced with spices that is made to be inhaled. Introduced to the Qing court by Europeans in the late 1600s, snuff taking became an imperial habit, and many bottles were produced for the court. Besides clearing one's sinuses, snuff was also believed to relieve headaches, and by the early nineteenth century its inhalation had become a widespread practice in China. Early examples were simple in form, but by the late 1700s medicinal bottles had evolved into beautiful works of art that were viewed as collectors' items. The appeal of these bottles to collectors continues to this day.

Snuff bottles are a reflection of Chinese art in miniature form. They are especially rich in Chinese symbols because, as objects carried on one's person, they reflect the sentiments of their owners. Their decorations frequently symbolize the owner's wishes for blessings, numerous offspring, wealth and rank, and longevity.

All objects are from The Avery Brundage Collection, unless otherwise noted.

All objects date to the Qing dynasty (1644–1911), unless otherwise noted.

1

刀馬戰騎圖鼻煙壺 清晚期
景德鎮粉彩瓷

Snuff bottle with decoration of two warriors fighting on horseback, approx. 1800–1900

Porcelain with overglaze multicolor decoration

Gift of Richard P. Arens, 2010.143.a–.b

2

連年有餘(蓮、魚)鼻煙壺 清晚期 瑪瑙

Snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1900

Agate, B72M15

3

和合二仙鼻煙壺 清晚期 象牙

Snuff bottle with the Two Immortals of Harmony and Mirth, approx.

1800–1900

Ivory, B72M32

4

三娘教子圖鼻煙壺 清晚期
景德鎮釉下彩瓷

Snuff bottle with scene of a man, woman, and kneeling boy, approx. 1800–1900

Porcelain with underglaze blue and reddish decoration

Gift of Richard P. Arens, 2010.144.a–.b

5

童子戲燈慶元宵節鼻煙壺 清晚期 象牙

Snuff bottle with a scene of boys at play, approx. 1880–1911

Ivory with paint

Bequest of Michel D. Weill, B85M1

The boys are carrying lanterns, celebrating the fifteenth day of the first lunar month.

6

錦衣傳代(錦帶穿壺)鼻煙壺 清晚期
翡翠

Snuff bottle wrapped by a piece of brocade, approx. 1800–1900

Jadeite, B72M24

7

東方朔偷仙桃鼻煙壺 清晚期 琥珀

Snuff bottle with Dongfang Shuo stealing peaches, approx. 1800–1900

Root amber, B72M13.a–.b

8

鍾馗驅鬼圖鼻煙壺 清中期
景德鎮青花瓷

Snuff bottle with Zhong Kui, the demon queller, expelling evil ghosts

Porcelain with underglaze blue decoration

Gift of Richard P. Arens, 2010.426.a–.b

9

文人賞蘭石圖鼻煙壺 清中期
揚州白套赭玻璃

Snuff bottle in “Seal School” style, approx. 1820–1880

Glass

Gift of Margaret Polak, 2006.21

10

魚龍鴻福春祺圖鼻煙壺 清代 1882年
揚州白套藍玻璃

Snuff bottle in “Seal School” style, 1882

Glass, B72M63

Western snuff bottle collectors named this type of bottle “Seal School”

because a seal mark is often included in the decoration.

11
金玉滿堂(金魚滿塘)鼻煙壺 清中期
景德鎮粉彩瓷
Snuff bottle with goldfish, approx.
1800–1850
Porcelain with overglaze multicolor
decoration
*Gift of the Asian Art Museum Foundation
from the collection of Ransom Cook,*
1989.32.6

12
蘇鳳羽 遊魚圖鼻煙壺 2005年 水晶
Snuff bottle, dated April 2005
By Su Fengyu, Chinese, b. 1960
Bottle: crystal with ink; stopper: jadeite
Gift of Ted H. Chiao, 2005.67.a–.b

13
博古圖鼻煙壺 清晚期 白套黑玻璃
Snuff bottle decorated with motifs
from the “Hundred Treasures,”
approx. 1800–1900
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)
Glass, B72M20

14
象形鼻煙壺 清晚期 白套紅玻璃
Snuff bottle in the shape of an
elephant, approx. 1800–1900
Glass, B72M45

15
葫蘆形鼻煙壺 清晚期 青金石
Snuff bottle in the shape of a double
gourd, approx. 1800–1900
Bottle: lapis lazuli; stopper: ivory,
B76M23

16
網紋鼻煙壺 清晚期 玻璃
Snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1900
Glass, B76M21

17
扁壺式鼻煙壺 清晚期 金星玻璃
Snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1900
Glass
*Gift of the Asian Art Museum
Foundation from the collection of
Ransom Cook, 1989.32.15*

18
圓肚收口鼻煙壺 清中期 藍玻璃灑金星
Snuff bottle, approx. 1730
Glass, B72M8

19
玉仔形鼻煙壺 清晚期 綠松石
Snuff bottle in the shape of a
pebble, approx. 1800–1900
Turquoise, B76M33

20
柳岸吟詩茗茶圖鼻煙壺 清中期 象牙
Snuff bottle with figures in a
landscape, approx. 1800–1850
Ivory with paint
*Transfer from the Fine Arts Museums of
San Francisco, Bequest of Isabella M.
Cowell, B81M10.a–.b*

21
問道圖鼻煙壺 清晚期 景德鎮釉下彩瓷
Snuff bottle with figures, approx.
1800–1900
Porcelain with underglaze blue and
reddish decoration
*Gift of the Asian Art Museum
Foundation from the Collection of
Ransom Cook, 1989.32.13*

22
連年有餘(蓮枝鯨魚)圖鼻煙壺
清晚期 玉石
Snuff bottle in the shape of a catfish
and lotus, approx. 1800–1900
Nephrite
Gift of Margaret Polak, 2006.51

23
年年如意(鯨魚、如意)鼻煙壺 清晚期
玉石
Snuff bottle with catfish and fungus,
approx. 1800–1900
Nephrite
Gift of James D. Tigerman, 2000.10
Catfish and lingzhi fungus imply a wish
that “one’s wishes come true year after
year.”

24
五蝠(五蝠)紋鼻煙壺 清中期 影子瑪瑙
Snuff bottle with five bats, approx.
1750–1800
China
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)
Shadow agate
*Gift of the Asian Art Museum
Foundation from the collection of
Ransom Cook, 1989.32.11*

25
一甲一名鼻煙壺 清晚期 影子瑪瑙
Snuff bottle, approx. 1850–1900
China
Qing dynasty (1644–1911)
Shadow agate
Gift of Wesley E. Kirkholm, 2006.31

26
福運如意圖鼻煙壺 清晚期 瑪瑙
Snuff bottle with a bat descending
from the sky, approx. 1800–1900
Agate, B76M28.a–.b

27
喜鵲登梅圖鼻煙壺 清晚期 影子瑪瑙
Snuff bottle with magpies on a plum
tree, approx. 1800–1900
Shadow agate
Gift of Margaret Polak, 2006.25

28

鋪首銜環鼻煙壺 清晚期 瑪瑙

Snuff bottle with carved masks and ring handles, approx. 1800–1900
Agate, B72M6

29

瓜瓞綿綿、子孫萬代圖鼻煙壺 清中期 玉石

Snuff bottle in the shape of a large and a small bottle gourd, approx. 1800–1850

Bottle: nephrite; stopper: stone

Gift of Dr. Vincent and Shirley Fausone, 2006.29

The string-like vines and tendrils make up another rebus for “Ten thousand generations of sons and grandsons (*zisun wandai*).”

30

江邊獨釣圖鼻煙壺 清晚期 玻璃

Snuff bottle imitating aquamarine, approx. 1850–1900
Bottle: glass; stopper: rose quartz
Gift of Dr. Vincent and Shirley Fausone, 2006.28

31

太師少師(雙獅)鼻煙壺 清晚期 玻璃

Snuff bottle decorated with lions, approx. 1800–1900
Glass, B72M37

32

官上加官(雞冠、雞冠花)鼻煙壺 清末民初 瑪瑙

Snuff bottle with rooster, approx. 1850–1949
Qing dynasty (1644–1911) or Republic Period (1912–1949)
Agate
Gift of the Asian Art Museum Foundation from the collection of Ransom Cook, 1989.32.3

33

扁壺式鼻煙壺 清晚期 江蘇宜興瑪瑙

Snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1900
Agate, B72M38.a–.b

34

富貴滿堂(牡丹、玉蘭、錦雞)鼻煙壺 清晚期 孔雀石

Snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1900
Malachite, B76M27.a–.b

35

郭云山 圓形扁肚鼻煙壺 清中期 江蘇 宜興紫砂

Snuff bottle, approx. 1825–1875
By Guo Yunshan (Chinese, probably 1800–1900)
Stoneware, B72M14.a–.b
Like teapots, snuff bottles from Yixing are characterized by a simple form with a well-polished surface.

36

古式夔龍耳鼻煙壺 清中期 玉石

Snuff bottle with decoration on the shoulder, approx. 1750–1850
Nephrite, B72M12

37

墨絲紋鼻煙壺 清晚期 石英

Snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1900
Quartz with tourmaline crystals, B72M48

38

墨絲紋鼻煙壺 清中期 石英

Snuff bottle, approx. 1775–1850
Quartz with tourmaline crystals
Bequest of Isabella M. Cowell, B68M7

39

多面開光鼻煙壺 清晚期 藍套赭玻璃

Snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1900
Glass, B72M10

40

瓜瓞綿綿圖鼻煙壺 清代 珊瑚

Snuff bottle in the shape of twin melons, approx. 1850–1900
Coral

Gift of the Asian Art Museum

Foundation from the collection of Ransom Cook, 1989.32.19

41

多面組合鼻煙壺 清代 玻璃

Faceted snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1850
Glass, B72M9

42

玉仔形鼻煙壺 清中期 玉石

Snuff bottle in the shape of a pebble, approx. 1750–1850
Nephrite, B62J20

43

萬壽如意紋三連體藥盒 清代 銀鑿

Medicine bottles, approx. 1850–1900
Silver
Gift of Margaret Polak, B86M4

44

竹石紋鼻煙壺 清晚期 雲母殼

Snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1900
Mother-of-pearl, B72M34.a–.b

45

千紫萬妖雕花鼻煙壺 清晚期 碧璽

Snuff bottle with blossoms, approx. 1800–1900
Tourmaline
Bequest of Isabella M. Cowell, B68M6

46
富貴耄耋 (貓蝶牡丹) 圖鼻煙壺 清晚期
玻璃

Snuff bottle with design of a cat, butterfly, and peony, approx. 1800–1900

Glass

Transfer from the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, Gift of Mrs. Morton Mitchell, B81M5

47
辣椒點紅梅鼻煙壺 清代 珊瑚、孔雀石
Snuff bottle in the shape of a red pepper

Bottle: coral; stopper: malachite

Gift of Margaret Polak, 2006.24

48
觀音菩薩攜龍鳳鼻煙壺 清晚期 珊瑚
Snuff bottle with Avalokiteshvara (Guanyin), dragon, and phoenix, approx. 1800–1900

Coral

Bequest of Isabella M Cowell, B81M11.a–.b

49
茄形鼻煙壺 清中期 紫晶套料
Snuff bottle in the shape of an eggplant, approx. 1775–1850

Amethyst and glass, B72M18

50
白菜形鼻煙壺 清晚期 景德鎮彩繪瓷
Snuff bottle in the shape of a Chinese cabbage, approx. 1800–1900

Porcelain with glaze

Gift of Margaret Polak, 2006.19

51
龍紋鼻煙壺 清乾隆朝 玻璃
Snuff bottle molded with dragons
Qing dynasty, reign of the Qianlong emperor (1736–1795)

Glass

Gift of Margaret Polak, 2006.20

52
瓜形鼻煙壺 清晚期 玉石
Snuff bottle in the shape of a melon, approx. 1800–1900

Nephrite, B72M3.a–.b

53
梨形鼻煙壺 清晚期 椰殼
Snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1900

Coconut shell, B76M16.a–.b

54
長壽靈芝紋鼻煙壺 清代 竹根
Snuff bottle in the shape of a fungus, approx. 1820–1880

Bamboo root

Gift of Margaret Polak, 2001.6

55
三多 (多福多壽多子) 鼻煙壺 清晚期
玻璃
Snuff bottle decorated with the “Three Plenties,” approx. 1750–1900

Glass

Gift of the Asian Art Museum

Foundation from the Collection of Ransom Cook, 1989.32.16

The Buddha’s-hand citrons, peaches, and pomegranate stand for an abundance of blessings, longevity, and many sons.

56
壽桃紋鼻煙壺 清晚期 瑪瑙
Snuff bottle in the shape of a peach, approx. 1800–1900

Bottle: agate; stopper: metal, B72M17.a–.b

57
長方扁肚鼻煙壺 清晚期 牛角
Squarish snuff bottle, 1800–1900

Buffalo horn, B76M25

58
陸羽品茶圖鼻煙壺 清代
廣州銅胎畫琺瑯
Snuff bottle depicting the tea master Lu Yu, approx. 1800–1850

Enamel on metal, B60M483

Lu Yu of the Tang dynasty (618–907) wrote *The Classic of Tea*. He sits leisurely on a rock, waiting for his tea to be brewed by a kneeling servant.

59
採桑集貨圖鼻煙壺 清代
廣州銅胎畫琺瑯
Snuff bottle depicting figures in a garden, approx. 1800–1850

Enamel on metal, B60M482

60
開光牡丹岩石花卉紋鼻煙壺 清代
銅胎捏絲琺瑯
Snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1850

Cloisonné enamel

Transfer from the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, gift of Hon. M. H. de Young, B81M14

61
人物故事圖鼻煙壺 清晚期
廣州銅胎畫琺瑯
Snuff bottles with figures, approx. 1875–1900

Enamel on metal

Gift of Marsha Vargas, 2006.30

62
西洋人物莊園景鼻煙盒 清中期
廣州銅胎畫琺瑯
Oval covered snuff box, approx. 1700–1800

Enamel on metal, B60M479

63

多子多孫(蝸蝸、葡萄)鼻煙壺

清晚期 白套湖藍玻璃

Snuff bottle decorated with katydid and grapes, 1800–1900

Glass, B72M21.a–.b

64

二甲傳臚圖鼻煙壺 清代 琥珀套綠玻璃

Snuff bottle with two crabs and a stalk of reed, approx. 1800–1850

Glass

Gift of Heinz Frankenstein, 2006.32

65

玉蘭菊花紋鼻煙壺 清中期 藍套白玻璃

Snuff bottle decorated with chrysanthemum and begonia,

approx. 1800–1900

Glass

Bequest of Hannah B. Carmick, B85M11

66

草蟲樹葉鼻煙壺 清晚期 色斑石

Snuff bottle with leaves and insects, 1800–1900

Jasper, B72M25

67

鍾馗捉鬼圖鼻煙壺 清晚期

景德鎮釉下彩瓷

Snuff bottle with a scene of Zhong Kui, the demon queller, enjoying tea, 1800–1900

Porcelain with underglaze blue and brown decoration

Gift of Richard P. Arens, 2010.425.a–.b

Zhong Kui, the demon queller, is being entertained by his demons, whose gymnastic performance is accompanied by cymbals and gong.

68

鍾馗夜行圖鼻煙壺 清代 景德鎮粉彩瓷

Snuff bottle decorated with Zhong

Kui, the demon queller, approx.

1800–1850

Porcelain with overglaze multicolor decoration

Gift of the Asian Art Museum

Foundation from the Collection of

Ransom Cook, 1989.32.20

69

鑲金獅鈕鼻煙壺 清晚期 青金石

Snuff bottle with stopper in the shape of a lion, 1800–1900

Bottle: lapis lazuli; stopper: bronze with gilding, B72M7

70

仿潑墨蓮荷湖水鼻煙壺 清中期 玻璃

Snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1850

Glass, wooden stand

Bequest of Hannah B. Carmick, B85M12

71

鋪首銜環鼻煙壺 清代 花崗石

Snuff bottle with carved masks and ring handles

Granite

Gift of Margaret Polak, 2006.23

72

彩斑紋鼻煙壺 清晚期 彩塊石

Snuff bottle, approx. 1875–1900

Basalt

Gift of Margaret Polak, 2006.26

73

葉淑英 內繪多子石榴圖鼻煙壺 1958年

水晶彩繪

Snuff bottle inside-painted with pomegranates, 1958

By Ye Shuying (Chinese, active 1930–1960)

Crystal with ink and colors

Gift of the Asian Art Museum Foundation

from the Collection of Ransom Cook,

1989.32.18

74

仕女採梅、持扇圖鼻煙壺 清晚期

景德鎮粉彩瓷

Double snuff bottle depicting beauties, approx. 1800–1900

Porcelain with overglaze multicolor decoration

Gift of the Asian Art Museum

Foundation from the Collection of

Ransom Cook, 1989.32.12

75

陳仲三 內繪踏雪尋梅圖鼻煙壺 清代

1909年 玻璃彩繪

Snuff bottle inside-painted with an old man on a donkey, 1909

By Chen Zhongsan (Chinese, active 1890–1950)

Glass with ink and colors

Gift of Charles Fogg, 2003.18.a–.b

76
王冠宇 內繪荷蓮鷺鷥、孟浩然詩句
鼻煙壺 1977年 玻璃
Snuff bottle painted inside with
lotus, kingfisher, and calligraphy of a
poem by Meng Haoran (active 713-
741), 1977
By Wang Guanyu (Chinese)
Glass with ink
Gift of Margaret Polak, 2007.54.a-.b

77
二甲傳臚(螃蟹、蘆葦)蘭菊蝶映
鼻煙壺 清晚期 透明地套彩色玻璃
Snuff bottle with flowers, crab, and
butterflies, approx. 1850–1900
Glass
*Gift of the Asian Art Museum Foundation
from the Collection of Ransom Cook,
1989.32.9*
Peonies and butterflies represent
an accumulation of blessings and
prosperity. Success in the final (palace)
civil service examination is implied by
the crab holding a stalk of reed.

78
衍玉田 內繪深山談道圖鼻煙壺 清代
1895年 玻璃彩繪
Snuff bottle inside-painted with
landscape and camels, 1895
By Yan Yutian (Chinese, active late
1800s)
Glass with ink and colors
Gift of Raymond Lum, 2006.33

79
龍紋鼻煙壺 清晚期 白套藍玻璃
Snuff bottle with dragons, approx.
1800–1900
Glass, B72M22.a-.b

80
平(蘋)安如意紋鼻煙壺 清代 琥珀
Snuff bottle in the shape of a vase
with apples, approx. 1800–1850
Amber, B72M27

81
太師少師(雙獅)圖鼻煙壺 清晚期
琥珀
Snuff bottle, lions playing with a ball
approx. 1800–1900
Amber, B72M28

82
梨形綠鼻煙壺 清中期 玉石
Snuff bottle, approx. 1800–1900
Nephrite, B72M5.a-.b

83
鋪首銜環鼻煙壺 清晚期 瑪瑙
Snuff bottle made for the Mongolian
market, approx. 1850–1900
Agate
*Gift of Roderick A. McManigal,
1991.233.a-.b*

84
水仙岩石鋪首銜環鼻煙壺 清晚期 玉石
Snuff bottle decorated with
narcissus, approx. 1800–1900
Nephrite, 1999.36.a-.b

85
月下撫琴圖鼻煙壺 清晚期
景德鎮青花瓷
Snuff bottle with a scholar playing a
qin, approx. 1850–1900
Porcelain with underglaze blue decoration
Gift of Raymond Lum, 2006.34
The bottle is painted with a scholar
playing a *qin*, a musical instrument
with seven strings. *Qin* playing was
considered one of the four prime
scholarly pursuits.

86
長圓鼻煙壺 近代 瑪瑙
Flattened oval snuff bottle
Republic Period (1912–1949)
Agate
*Gift of the Asian Art Museum Foundation
from the collection of Ransom Cook,
1989.32.4*

87
綠紋扁肚鼻煙壺 清晚期 瑪瑙
Flattened oval snuff bottle, approx.
1800–1900
Agate
*Gift of the Asian Art Museum Foundation
from the collection of Ransom Cook,
1989.32.5*

88
溪岸觀帆圖鼻煙壺 清晚期 廣州
銅胎繪琺瑯
Snuff bottle with elite scholars
observing boating, approx. 1875–1900
Enamel on metal
Gift of Margaret Polak, 2006.22

89
紅龍戲珠五福(蝠)圖鼻煙壺 清晚期
景德鎮青花繪紅彩瓷
Double snuff bottle with dragons,
approx. 1850–1900
Porcelain with underglaze blue and
overglaze red decoration
*Bequest of Drs. Ben and A. Jess
Shenson, 2010.145.a-.c*

90
古式夔龍紋鼻煙壺 清晚期 北京
雪花白 套紅、赭玻璃
Snuff bottle with young dragons,
approx. 1800–1900
Glass, B72M23.a-.b

*All objects are from The Avery Brundage
Collection, unless otherwise noted.*

*All objects date to the Qing dynasty
(1644–1911), unless otherwise noted.*

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