

CHINESE CERAMICS FROM THE CHANGSHA KILNS

Reflections of Tang Dynasty Openness and Tolerance

Organizer

Museum of Anthropology,
Wake Forest University

Exhibition length

8 weeks

Content

100+ Neolithic - 10th century
Chinese ceramics

Security

Moderate

Space requirement

Min. 350 sq. ft.

Participation fee

\$6,000

Fee includes

Text panels; interpretive
labels in digital form

Insurance

Exhibitor responsible for
wall-to-wall insurance

Shipping

Exhibitor responsible for
outgoing shipping

Contact

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The Tang Dynasty (618-906 A.D.) was a legendary period in Chinese history. It was a golden age of cosmopolitan culture with high achievements in art, literature, and politics. With a population of two million, the Tang capital, Chang'an, was the commercial and cultural core of Asia. Stability and acceptance marked the early part of the Dynasty. Trade-driven prosperity resulted in mass production of ceramics reflecting vitality of form, technical perfection, diversified shapes, and colorful surfaces. The Changsha kilns were major producers of innovative domestic and export pottery from the middle Tang Dynasty through the Five Dynasties period.

Chinese Ceramics from the Changsha Kilns: Reflections of Tang Dynasty Openness and Tolerance features

more than 100 Tang Dynasty ceramics from the Museum of Anthropology's Lam Collection. Until excavation of the Changsha kilns and discovery of the Belitung shipwreck near Indonesia, few well-preserved Tang ceramic pieces survived except in tombs. This exhibit provides a rare opportunity to take a close look at high-quality ceramic pieces used as daily household wares, scholar's studio appointments, and for religious ceremonies.

Exhibit topics include the development of pottery manufacturing techniques, calligraphy and painting on Tang Dynasty ceramics, and the influence of export trade on domestic manufacturing. Examples of ceramics from before and after the Tang Dynasty help put the Changsha kilns into historic context.

