



The Relief Plaques of Eastern Eurasia and China: The 'Ordos Bronzes,' Peter the Great's Treasure, and their Kin (Beazley Archive: Studies in Gems and Jewellery)

By John Boardman

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This is a study of the relief plaques of the 'Ordos bronzes' and their kin in north China and Central Asia, including Peter the Great's Treasure in the State Hermitage, St Petersburg. It attempts to classify them by shape, style and iconography, and to trace their origins, listing and illustrating as many specimens as seemed necessary to convey to the reader the unity of individual series as well as their variety. One class is distinguished as probably made by the Chinese and for the Chinese after their adoption of nomad dress and tactics for archer cavalry in the later 4th century BC.

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About the Author

Sir John Boardman is one of the foremost experts on ancient Greek art. Having served as Assistant Director of the British School at Athens between 1952 and 1955, he was Assistant Keeper at the Ashmolean Museum and later Lincoln Professor of Classical Archaeology and Art at the University of Oxford between 1978 and his retirement in 1994. His many publications include the volumes on Greek Sculpture and Athenian Black and Red Figure vases for Thames and Hudson's World of Art series. He continues his research at the Beazley Archive, concentrating on the history of gem collections.

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