



Smithsonian
*Freer Gallery of Art and
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery*

Catalog of Tibetan and Chinese Buddhist Art

Ryan Murray

2022

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Archives
Title:	Catalog of Tibetan and Chinese Buddhist Art
Date:	circa 1924
Identifier:	FSA.A2022.03
Source:	Zucker, A. E. (Adolf Eduard), 1890-1971
Creator:	Staël-Holstein, A., Freiherr von (Alexander), 1877-1937 (Author)
Extent:	0.2 Cubic feet
Language:	English , French .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gift of Donna Strahan, 2022.

Processing Information

Processed by Ryan Murray, 2022.

Preferred Citation

Catalog of Tibetan and Chinese Buddhist Art, FSA.A2022.03. National Museum of Asian Art Archives. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. Gift of Donna Strahan.

Restrictions

The collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Use

Permission to reproduce and publish an item from the Archives is coordinated through the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery's Rights and Reproductions department. Please contact the Archives in order to initiate this process.

Biographical / Historical

This handmade, handwritten catalog and photographs, while unsigned by their author, were likely created by Alexander von Staël-Holstein (1877-1937) and document his personal art collection. A supplementary article which, the catalog notes, refers to and includes photographs from the collection, "Notes diverses sur les Cultes en Chine: Les ornements rituels des temples lamaïques et buddhiques" (published 1924) by G. Bouillard, refers to Staël-Holstein's collection and reproduces photographs of works from it. The photographer(s) are not named.

Staël-Holstein, from a noble Baltic German family, was an academic specializing in Buddhist texts and arts. During his career, he served as a professor at Peking University, Harvard, and Yenching University.

The catalog itself was in the possession of Adolf E. Zucker (1890-1971), a professor in the German Department at the University of Maryland. Zucker took an interest in the arts and culture of China while living there from 1917-1924 and published a volume on Chinese theatre. The catalog was discovered in his former residence in 1981 by Donna Strahan, future head of the Department of Conservation and Scientific Research at the National Museum of Asian Art, after she purchased the home.

Scope and Contents

Consist of a handmade catalog of black-and-white photographs and notes on a private collection of Tibetan and Chinese Buddhist art. Also includes a French-language article incorporating images and references to the collection. The catalog, which is unsigned, was likely created by Alexander von Staël-Holstein, as the notes indicate the article refers to and includes photographs of the writer's collection, and the article mentions using Staël-Holstein's collection for research and photography.

Arrangement

Arranged in original order.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Art, Buddhist
Buddhism

Names:

Zucker, A. E. (Adolf Eduard), 1890-1971

Places:

China
Tibet

Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	[Notes], circa 1924 Language: English.
Box 1, Folder 2	[Photographs], circa 1924
Box 1, Folder 3	[Photographs, mounting], circa 1924
Box 1, Folder 4	Bouillard, G., "Notes diverses sur les Cultes en Chine: Les ornements rituels des temples lamaïques et buddhiques", 1924 Author: Bouillard, G. Language: French.