Emerging from the tradition of the Western visual arts, the 19th-century Chinese Palace Museum has been regarded as a treasure house of Chinese visual culture.

Possessing the Past

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Book Details

- Title: Possessing the Past
- Author: Wen C. Fong
- Publisher: National Palace Museum
- Publication Date: 1996

The Chinese Palace Museum has long been the source of inspiration for Western art historians and collectors. The museum's rich collection of Chinese art and artifacts, spanning over a millennium, has attracted scholars and collectors from around the world. This book offers a unique insight into the museum's history and its contribution to the study of Chinese art.

The book begins with an overview of the museum's history, from its establishment in the 17th century to its current status as a major cultural institution. It then goes on to discuss the museum's collection, highlighting some of its most significant works, such as the famous scrolls by famous artists like Dong Qichang and Wu Wei. The book also examines the museum's role in the development of modern Chinese art and its influence on contemporary artists.

The book is a must-read for anyone interested in Chinese art and culture, and it provides a valuable resource for art historians and collectors.

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Book Review

- Title: Possessing the Past
- Reviewer: Erin Thompson
- Publication Date: 2016-05-28

This book provides a comprehensive overview of the Chinese Palace Museum and its contribution to the study of Chinese art. The author, Wen C. Fong, is a renowned scholar in the field and his expertise is evident throughout the book.

The book is well-researched and the author's knowledge is evident in his writing. He provides a detailed account of the museum's history, from its establishment in the 17th century to its current status as a major cultural institution. He also discusses the museum's collection, highlighting some of its most significant works, such as the famous scrolls by famous artists like Dong Qichang and Wu Wei.

This book is a must-read for anyone interested in Chinese art and culture, and it provides a valuable resource for art historians and collectors. It is highly recommended for anyone looking to deepen their understanding of Chinese art and culture.
"An extraordinary piece of literary history, full of adventure and wonder, just the kind of story to keep children up late at night." (Publishers Weekly) 

"A wondrous story of adventure, faith, and friendship. A fantasy stacked with Chinese folklore, richly imagined worldbuilding, and a compelling tale of courage and ingenuity." (Kirkus Reviews) 

"The writing is crisp, the story is engrossing, and the world building is seamless. A fantastic read for fans of fairy tales and fantasy." (Examiner.com) 

"A delightful and magical debut novel that will capture both children and adults with its vivid imagery and heartwarming message. It is a timeless story reminiscent of The Wizard of Oz and Kelly Barnhill’s The Girl Who Drank the Moon. Her beautiful illustrations, printed in full-color, accompany the text." (Publisher's Weekly) 

Possessing the Past: Treasures from the National Palace Museum, Taipei "An extraordinary piece of history, a fresh and lively read" (The Christian Science Monitor)—the passionate, gripping, true story of one man’s single-minded quest to reclaim his family’s art collection, stolen by the Nazis during World War II. Simon Goodman’s grandparents came from German banking dynasties and inherited a world-renowned art collection. But after Simon’s father passed away, and Simon received all his father’s papers, a story began to emerge. The story, so far no one knew, traced from a small Berlin hasidah to Simon’s great-great-grandfather’s powerful banking families. They also amassed a magnificent, world-class art collection that included works by Degas, Renoir, Botticelli, Guardi, and many, many more. The whole family was wiped out in the Holocaust, and Simon, knowing that his gifts have made the room for you to dwell in your wealthy place. 

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"The Orpheus Clock - Simon Goodman - 2010-09-03" 

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