

Art Crafts Made of Bamboo,
Wood, Ivory and Horn

竹木牙角器

朱穆◎编著





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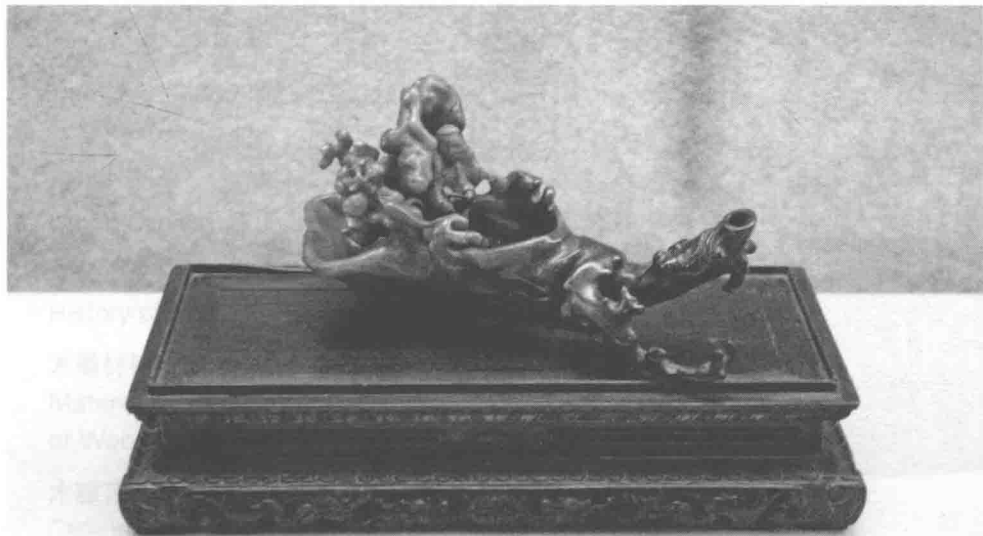
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中国的竹木牙角器包括以竹、木、象牙、兽角制作的各种器物。这些器物除了采用不同的材质外，还有雕刻等特定的制作工艺，是中国传统工艺美术的一个重要类别。与中国传统的金银器、玉器和陶器不同，竹木牙角器多为小

Chinese art crafts made of bamboo, wood, ivory and animal horn and the like are not only produced with different materials but also processed with special craftsmanship like sculpture, etc., making up an important category in traditional Chinese arts and crafts. Different from traditional gold or silver



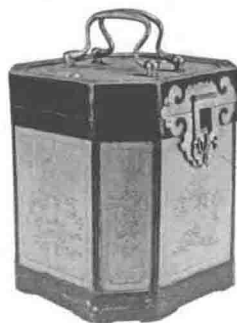
形器件，以往人们习惯将其归为“杂项”。其实竹木牙角器的艺术价值并不低于金银玉器，有的名家之作甚至成为稀世珍宝。

本书详细介绍了竹木牙角器的发展历史、类别以及工艺技法等情况，并配有精美的图片。期望读者能够通过这种图文并茂的形式对中国的竹木牙角器艺术获得更为深刻的了解。

ware, jade ware and porcelain ware, they are mostly made in small size and considered as sundries. However, they actually possess fairly high aesthetic value even compared with gold or silver ware. Some masterpieces are considered priceless treasure.

Illustrated with abundant pictures, this book gives a detailed introduction to the development of those art crafts, the categorization and the respective craftsmanship, by which we hope that the readers can gain a further understanding on them.





竹雕

Bamboo Carving 001

竹雕小史

History of Bamboo Carving 002

竹雕材料与工艺

Material and Craftsmanship of
Bamboo Carving 014

竹雕艺术品类

Categorization of Bamboo Carving 023

木雕

Wood Carving 031

木雕小史

History of Wood Carving 032

木雕材料与工艺

Material and Craftsmanship
of Wood Carving 050

木雕艺术品类

Categorization of Wood Carving 069



牙雕

Ivory Carving..... 085

牙雕小史

History of Ivory Carving 086

牙雕材料

Material of Ivory Carving..... 098

牙雕工艺

Craftsmanship of Ivory Carving 102

牙雕艺术品类

Categorization of Ivory Carving..... 110



角雕

Horn Carving..... 119

角雕小史

History of Horn Carving 120

角雕材料

Material of Horn Carving..... 126

角雕艺术品类

Categorization of Horn Carving..... 133

竹雕

Bamboo Carving

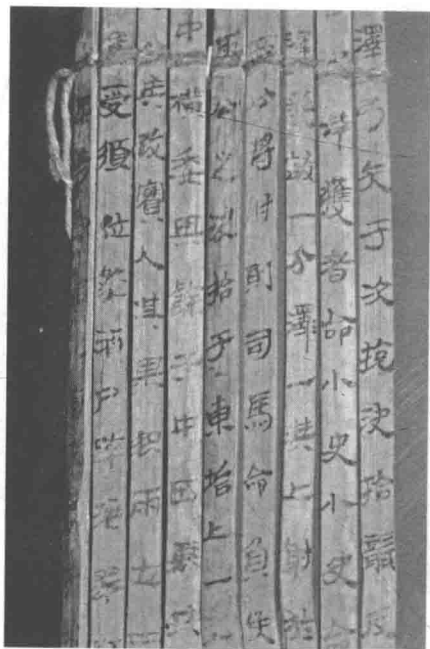
竹雕，也称“竹刻”，是指在竹制器物上雕刻各种装饰图案及文字，或用竹根雕刻成各种陈设摆件。中国是世界上最早利用竹制品的国家，而且还形成了特有的竹文化，在竹雕的发展历史上，出现了许多雕刻流派和艺术大师。

Bamboo carving, also called bamboo engraving, refers to engraving various ornamental patterns and characters in the objects made of bamboo, or carving the root of bamboo into diverse decorative articles for display. China, as the earliest country in use of bamboo products all over the world, has formed its unique bamboo culture. During the history of bamboo carving's development, sculpture schools as well as great artists sprang up in large numbers.



> 竹雕小史

中国竹雕源远流长，最早可以追溯到先秦时期。据史书记载，在



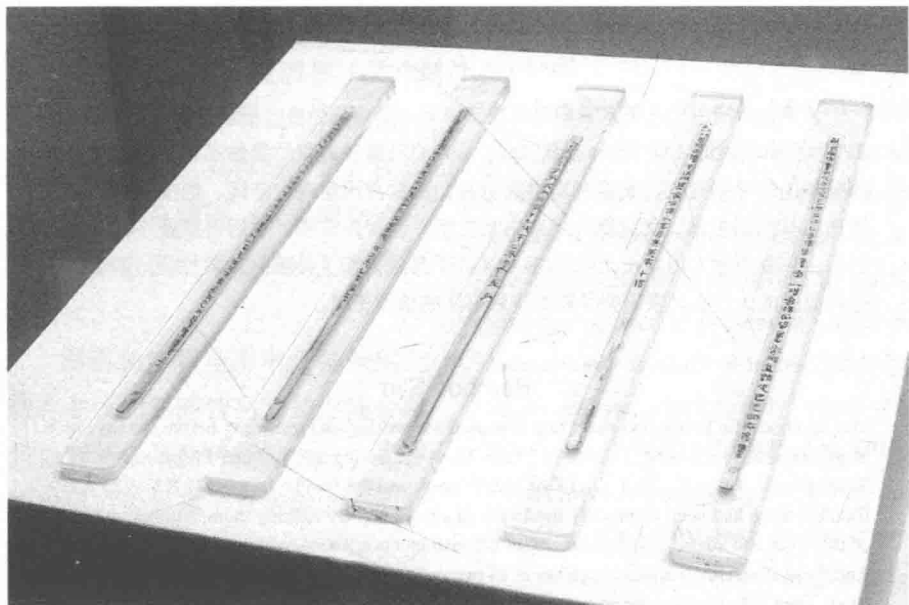
• 湖北云梦睡虎地出土的秦代竹简

Bamboo Slips Unearthed in Shuihudi, Yunmeng County, Hubei Province (Qin Dynasty, 221 B.C.-206 B.C.)

> History of Bamboo Carving

With a long history in China, bamboo carving can be traced back to the Pre-Qin Period (2070 B.C.-221 B.C.). It is recorded that in the Western Zhou Dynasty (1046 B.C.-771 B.C.), when the officials met the emperor in the morning conference, each of them would hold a scepter board made of bamboo, which could be used not only to take emperor's orders down but also to keep notes for what they need to declare. Besides, there was some decoration of lines engraved in the bamboo scepter, though they could not be regarded as art crafts yet.

In the Eastern Zhou Dynasty (770 B.C.-256 B.C.), human beings have already written on the bamboo sheets for keeping a record of events and have connected them in series by strings, finally forming the Bamboo Slip. In the Chu Tomb of Warring States Period (475 B.C.-



• 西汉竹简

Bamboo Slips (Western Han Dynasty, 206 B.C.-25 A.D.)

西周时期（前1046—前771），官员们在朝见天子的朝会上，每人手中都会持一种竹制的笏板，既可以用来记录君王的旨意，也可以将需要上奏的话写录在上面。此外，竹笏上面还会刻一些纹饰。但这种竹笏还不能被称作艺术品。

东周时期（前770—前256），人们已经开始在竹片上写字，用来记事，并用绳子将竹片串联起来，这就是“竹简”。河南信阳的战国楚墓中曾出土800多片竹简，简上

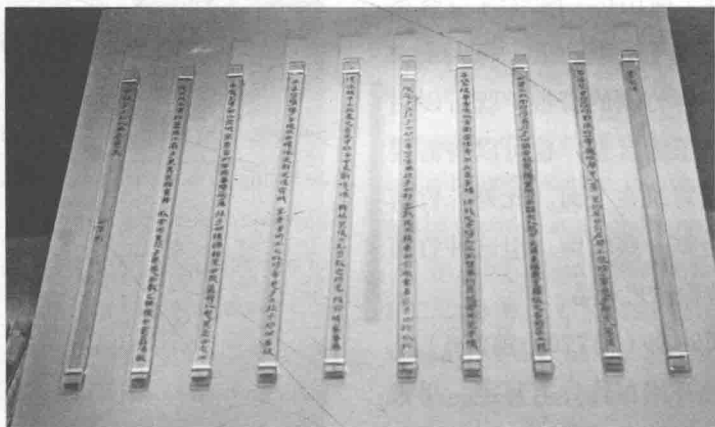
221 B.C.), Xinyang City, Henan Province, more than 800 pieces of Bamboo Slips with distinct and legible characters were unearthed. In the tomb of the same period, Jiangling County, Hubei Province, people have even excavated the wine cup made of bamboo (called Zhi in ancient times). It is featured by its ears, which are made up of the lid together with the projecting parts on both sides of mouth edge, three feet in shape of animal hoof at the bottom, its black paint and its exquisite sculpture, which all indicate that an artistic tendency

竹简

竹简是中国古代造纸术发明之前用来书写、记事的竹片。春秋战国（前770—前221）至秦汉时期（前221—公元220），人们已经普遍用竹简作书籍。制作时将皮薄节长的竹子削成一定长度和宽度的竹片，然后再用丝绳、麻绳、细皮条等分上下两道将其编连起来，之后便可用来书写文字；也有先写字，然后再按顺序编联成册的。山东临沂银雀山曾出土5000多枚《孙子兵法》和《孙臆兵法》竹简，如今，这些竹简已成为考古学家研究早期文字和书法的珍贵资料。

Bamboo Slip

The Bamboo Slip is bamboo sheet that was used for writing and recording before the invention of papermaking technology in ancient China. From the Spring and Autumn Period and Warring States Period (770 B.C.-221 B.C.) to the Qin Dynasty and the Han Dynasty (221 B.C.-220 A.D.), Bamboo Slips had been commonly used as books in China. By making them, bamboo materials of thin skin and sparse joints are chopped off into bamboo sheets with same length and width. And these sheets are bound up together at its two ends with silk thread, hemp rope or thin leather strap. Then they can be used to write on; while some get characters written down before bound into books in sequence. More than 5000 pieces of Bamboo Slips of *The Art of War* and *Sun Bin's Art of War* were unearthed in Yinqe Mountain, Linyi City, Shandong Province, which nowadays have become the precious materials for the archaeologists to study the early writing and calligraphy.



• 银雀山汉墓出土的《孙子兵法》竹简（图片提供：FOTOE）

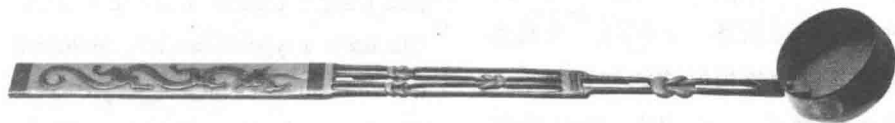
Bamboo Slips of *The Art of War* Unearthed in Han Tomb,
Yinqe Mountain (Han Dynasty, 206 B.C.-220 A.D.)

的文字清晰可见。湖北江陵的战国墓葬中还出土过竹制酒杯（古称“竹卮”），盖子和口沿两侧凸出形成耳，下有三只兽蹄形足，髹黑漆，雕刻十分精致，这表明当时在竹子利用方面已经萌生出了艺术化的倾向。

湖南长沙的马王堆汉墓曾出土雕有龙纹的彩漆竹勺，是中国目前能见到的最早的竹刻品之一，这说明汉代已经出现了真正意义上的竹雕艺术品。勺身浮雕龙纹，鳞爪描红，作奔腾状，风格精美古朴。东晋时期（317—420）出现了竹制笔筒。据记载，东晋大书法家王献之（344—386）所用的斑竹笔筒十分独特精致，外形酷似一种盛酒的

in use of bamboo at that time had already appeared.

Han Tomb in Mawangdui, Changsha City, Hunan Province, has ever excavated a color-lacquered bamboo spoon with a dragon pattern, considered as one of the earliest bamboo engraving products that can be seen at present in China. It indicates that art crafts of bamboo carving in the real sense had already come forth in the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.). In style of exquisiteness as well as primitive simplicity, body of the spoon is embossed with a pattern of galloping dragon whose scaled claws are retouched in red. When it came to the Eastern Jin Dynasty (317-420), brush container made of bamboo appeared. It is recorded that mottled-bamboo brush container used by the great calligrapher in the Eastern Jin



• 马王堆西汉墓出土的彩漆竹勺

竹勺全长65厘米，以竹为胎，器表髹黑、红两色漆。勺柄近顶端一段为红色，勺身雕有黑色龙纹。

Color-lacquered Bamboo Spoon Unearthed in the Western Han Tomb, Mawangdui (Western Han Dynasty, 206 B.C.-25 A.D.)

With body made of bamboo and surface painted by black and red, it is of 65 centimeters in length. The part closing to the top of the spoon handle is represented in red while the body is engraved with dragon pattern in black.



马王堆西汉墓出土的竹筴

竹筴是竹篾编成的盛物箱子，马王堆汉墓中出土了48个竹筴，里面装满了各种随葬物品，外边拴着竹简说明竹筴内所放为何物。

Bamboo Suitcase (Si) Unearthed in the Western Han Tomb, Mawangdui (Western Han Dynasty, 206 B.C.-25 A.D.)

Bamboo Suitcase (Si) is the suitcase weaved by flat bamboo strips (Zhu Mie). In the Han Tomb, Mawangdui, 48 bamboo suitcases, filled with a variety of burial objects and fastened Bamboo Slips outside instructing what were put inside, were unearthed.

圆形钟，竹的表面生有斑纹，貌似裘皮，故王献之将其命名为“裘钟”。据《南齐书》记载，齐高帝曾将一件用竹根制成的如意赐给大隐士明僧绍。这表明，在南北朝（386—589）时期，竹根雕艺术已经出现。到了唐代（618—907），出现了许多刻有具体形象的竹雕品，最具代表性的就是竹制尺八。尺八是一种竖吹的管型乐器，因长

Dynasty, Wang Xianzhi (344-386), enjoyed extremely specialness and delicacy. For its shape is similar to a type of round wine jar (Zhong) and the bamboo is striped on the surface like the designing fur (Qiu), this bush pot was named Qiuzhong by Wang Xianzhi.

According to *Nanqi Book*, Emperor Qigao has bestowed Ming Sengshao, a great hermit, with a piece of Ruyi (Chinese sceptre) made of bamboo root, which shows that art of bamboo root carving had already emerged in Southern and Northern dynasties (386-589). As for the Tang Dynasty (618-907), heaps of bamboo root products engraved with specific images appeared, among which the most representative was Chi Ba (Chi is a unit of length that 3 Chi equals 1 meter and Ba means eight in Chinese; Chi Ba is a type of musical instrument made of bamboo with length of 1.8 Chi). Chi Ba, a type of vertical-blown tubular musical instrument, was named after its length of 1.8 Chi (approximately 45 centimeters). Now Shoso-in Repository in Japan preserves a bamboo Chi Ba of the Tang Dynasty of China, with length of 43.7 centimeters and three



一尺八寸（约45厘米）而得名。现在日本正仓院中就存有中国唐代的一支竹制尺八，长43.7厘米，三节，采用留青刻法浅雕有仕女、树木、花草、禽蝶等图案，刻画精致，具有唐代风格。汉唐时期的竹雕制品比较注重器物的外在造型，多采用单一的线刻手法，说明此时的竹雕艺术还处于初创阶段。

在宋代（960—1279），竹雕艺术的发展有了重大变化。宋代文

joints. Adopting Liuqing carving method (scraping off the surroundings and designing patterns on the remaining skin) and low relief, it is engraved exquisitely with patterns including images of beautiful women, trees, flowers, grass, birds, butterflies, etc., showing the style of the Tang Dynasty. Bamboo carving products in the Han Dynasty and the Tang Dynasty, attached more importance to its external styling features, usually with the single method of line carving, indicating that art of bamboo carving at



• 庭院人物竹雕（西夏）

西夏（1038—1227）是由党项人建立的与北宋并立的民族政权。这件竹雕出土于甘肃西夏王陵，长7厘米，宽2.7厘米，在狭小的画面中雕有生动的人物及精致的庭院、假山、花树等图案，刀法纯熟，明显受到中原雕刻艺术影响。

Bamboo Carving Article with Images of a Courtyard and Figures (Western Xia Dynasty, 1038-1227)

The Western Xia Dynasty (1038-1227) is an ethnic regime built by Dangxiang (a northern nation in ancient China) people and co-existed with the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127). This bamboo-carving article with a length of 7 centimeters and a width of 2.7 centimeters was unearthed in Western Xia Imperial Mausoleum, Gansu Province. It is carved with vivid figures, exquisite courtyard, rockery as well as patterns of flowers and trees by skilled knife working, which was obviously influenced by the carving art of Central Plains.



化繁荣，出现了一大批有修养的文人士大夫，竹在文人中的地位上升，竹雕艺人大受褒扬，因此，竹雕工艺备受重视，竹雕制品也越来越深受人们的喜爱。南宋艺人詹成雕刻制作的竹鸟笼，竹片上刻有宫室、人物、山水、花木、禽鸟等纹样，刀法精细，技术精湛。此时出现的竹雕多是在器物表面进行雕刻的实用品，单纯用于赏玩摆设的艺术品还很少见。

明清两代，竹雕艺术发展迅速，达到鼎盛，并且出现了各具特色的竹雕艺术流派。文人士大夫写竹、画竹、刻竹蔚然成风，促使竹雕与书画、雕塑艺术完美结合。当时的竹雕大师既长于书法和印章篆刻，又可以构图绘画，还兼具文人画家的艺术素养，所以，他们雕刻出来的器物富有创意，书卷气浓厚，且有很深的寓意。

明代中后期，竹雕产生了两大流派，即以濮仲谦为首的“金陵派”和以朱松邻为首的“嘉定派”。他们善于利用竹材的自然形态，删繁就简，衬托出竹的本质特征和文化寓意，作品富有书卷气而

that time was still in an initial stage.

In the Song Dynasty (960-1279), development of bamboo carving art broke out a great change. With prosperity of Song Dynasty's culture, a host of literati and scholar-bureaucrats turned up. Because literati began to attach great importance to bamboo, artists of bamboo carving were highly praised and art crafts of bamboo root were much valued. Thus bamboo root products were becoming more and more popular among people. The bamboo birdcage made by Zhan Cheng, an artist of the Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279), was carved with patterns of palaces, figures, mountains, rivers, trees, flowers and birds, etc. on the sheet by fine knife working and consummate skill. During this period, bamboo-carving articles were mostly practical products with engravings on the surface while art pieces solely used for display and appreciation seemed fairly rare.

In the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) and the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), art of bamboo carving achieved unprecedented development and reached its prime, when schools with diverse characteristics took place. Literati and scholar-bureaucrats all tended to write about, draw about



• 竹林七贤图案竹笔筒（清）

“竹林七贤”指的是魏末晋初的七位文学家。此笔筒高17.3厘米，采用高浮雕和透雕的手法雕刻了奇石、山水、人物。

Bamboo Brush Container with Design of Seven Sages of Bamboo Grove (Qing Dynasty, 1644-1911)

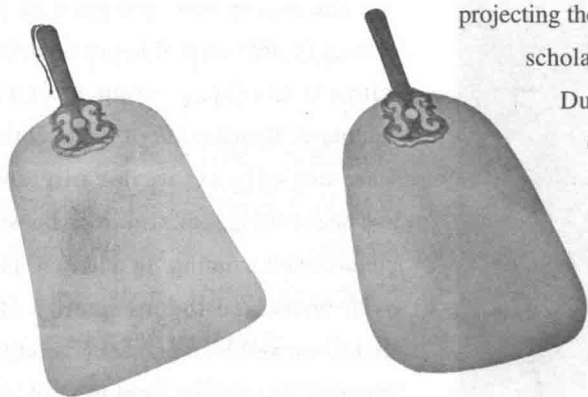
Seven Sages of Bamboo Grove refers to the seven litterateurs in the end of Kingdom of the Wei (220-265) and the early Jin Dynasty (265-420). This brush container with a height of 17.3 centimeters is carved with rare rocks, mountains, falls and figures by methods of high relief and openwork carving.

无匠气，受到文人的广泛欢迎。清初，除了嘉定派和金陵派大师辈出之外，张希黄、尚勋等人的剔地阳纹留青技法，极具文人气质，也名

and engrave bamboo, precipitating the perfect combination of bamboo carving with calligraphy, painting and art of sculpture. Bamboo carving artists then were not only expert in calligraphy and seal cutting, but also in composing pictures and painting. In addition, they even possessed the art quality of a literati as well as a painter. Therefore, the articles carved by them were of high creativity, strong academic style and deep implication.

At the mid and late stage of the Ming Dynasty, bamboo carving was divided into two schools: School of Jinling led by Pu Zhongqian and School of Jiading led by Zhu Songlin. They were adept in using bamboo's natural form and simplifying by weeding out superfluities, to bring out the essential features and cultural implications of bamboo. Hence, their works were affluent in an academic style rather than pedantry, becoming widely popular among the literati. In the early Qing Dynasty, except for multitudinous great masters of Jiading School and Jinling School, artists like Zhang Xihuang, Shang Xun and so on were also famous for the method of Liuqing carving, that is, carving a design by scraping off the surroundings and





• 竹刻“王勋”款人物图扇（清）

Bamboo Carving Fan of Figure Painting with Signature of Wangxun (Qing Dynasty, 1644-1911)

噪一时。康熙、乾隆年间，清宫造办处创造出“贴黄”技艺，以黄杨木为胎，用竹内皮雕成各种纹饰贴于器表，十分精美。

总之，明清两代的竹雕工艺品技法多样，水平高深精妙，品种繁多，观赏性日益增强，而且竹刻题材极其丰富，山水、花鸟、亭台、人物等都进入画面，富有生活气息，给人以清新活泼的感觉。

projecting the skin of an image, with high scholar temperament at that time.

During the regime of Kangxi (1662-1722) and Qianlong (1736-1795), Qing Palace Construction Section invented a new skill called Tiehuang (veneered bamboo carving), that the

article with body of boxwood, fine and exquisite, is pasted on the surface with various patterns engraved with the inner skin of bamboo.

All in all, the craftsmanship of bamboo carving in the Ming and Qing dynasties was diverse and exquisite, with ever-growing categories and beauties for appreciation. Bamboo carving at that time covered a lot of themes, such as mountains and waters, flowers, birds, pavilions and figures, all full of life, leaving viewers with a sense of freshness and vividness.