



THE ORIENTAL CERAMIC SOCIETY OF HONG KONG LIMITED

“HONGLI, THE MOST PRODUCTIVE POET IN HISTORY AND ART OBJECTS WITH QIANLONG IMPERIAL POEMS”

by

PROFESSOR PETER Y K LAM

Date: Thursday, 15 January 2009
Venue: The Hong Kong Club
Jackson Road, Central, Hong Kong
Time: 18:30 Drinks; 19:00 Presentation; 20:15 Dinner
Cost: Lecture HK\$100 for non-members
Dinner HK\$450 (members); HK\$500 (guests)

The Qianlong Emperor (born Hongli, 1711-1799) reigned officially from 1735 to 1796, after which he retired, a filial act done so as not to surpass the sixty-one years of the reign of his grandfather, the Kangxi Emperor. His reign was one of the most prosperous in Chinese history. The Qianlong emperor always emphasized that he was a literatus rather than a monarch. He started to compose essays and poems at the age of fourteen. In his lifetime he composed more than forty-three thousand poems, making him the most productive poet, not only in the whole history of China, but in the world! From time to time the Qianlong emperor would ask the imperial household workshop to inscribe his poems on art objects. Certainly no one in the 18th and 19th century could have foreseen how such Qianlong poems are treasured today by connoisseurs and dealers. This lecture will introduce and discuss a few of these art works.

Professor Peter Y K Lam: A graduate from the Percival David Foundation of Chinese Art, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, Peter Lam is an art historian as well as a museum professional. His scholarly works on Chinese ceramics, calligraphy rubbings and the decorative arts are widely published. He began his museum career at the Urban Council City Hall Museum and Art Gallery in the early 1970's working under James Watt, who later founded the Art Museum, the Chinese University of Hong Kong. After a very short period at the City Hall, he was persuaded by James Watt to join the CUHK Art Museum and has been there since, where he is its Director. Peter Lam is a long time member of the Min Chiu Society, a prestigious collectors' club in Hong Kong, a council member of the Chinese Society of Ancient Ceramics in Beijing, an Honorary Research Fellow of the Palace Museum, Beijing and an Honorary member of the Oriental Ceramic Society of Hong Kong.

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- Please reserve ___ seat(s) for OCS member(s) to attend Prof Peter Y K Lam's lecture on 15 January 2009.
- Please reserve ___ seat(s) at HK\$100 for non-members to attend Professor Peter Y K Lam's lecture.
- Please reserve ___ seat(s) for members at HK\$450 each and ___ seat(s) for guests at HK\$500 each for dinner. N.B. Due to The Hong Kong Club's regulations, any dinner reserved will be charged irrespective of attendance unless at least 48 hours' notice of cancellation is given.

Name: _____ Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Prof./Dr.

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*The event will be cancelled or postponed to a later date if Typhoon Signal no.8 or above is hoisted or if Black Rainstorm Warning is in force **one hour** before the event.*