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Silk, porcelain and lacquer : China and Japan and their trade with Western Europe and the New World, 1500-1644. A survey of documentary and material evidence

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Citation

LLorens Planella, M. T. (2015, November 25). *Silk, porcelain and lacquer : China and Japan and their trade with Western Europe and the New World, 1500-1644. A survey of documentary and material evidence*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/36487>

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Author: Llorens Planella, Maria Teresa (Teresa Canepa)

Title: Silk, porcelain and lacquer : China and Japan and their trade with Western Europe and the New World, 1500-1644. A survey of documentary and material evidence

Issue Date: 2015-11-25

Silk, Porcelain and Lacquer

China and Japan
and their trade with
Western Europe and
the New World
1500–1644

A Survey of Documentary
and Material Evidence

Proefschrift

ter verkrijging van de graad van Doctor
aan de Universiteit Leiden, op gezag van
Rector Magnificus prof.mr. C.J.J.M. Stolker,
volgens besluit van het College voor
Promoties te verdedigen op woensdag
25 november 2015 klokke 15:00 uur

door Maria Teresa Llorens Planella
geboren te Santiago, Chili
in 1964

Promotoren

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Silk, Porcelain and Lacquer

China and Japan and their trade with Western Europe and the New World 1500–1644

A Survey of Documentary
and Material Evidence

In memory of Gordon Lang, whose knowledge and passion for Oriental ceramics inspired me to change my career path and pursue research in this field.

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Acknowledgements

This doctoral dissertation is the result of several years of a multidisciplinary study and it is indebted to many museums, institutions, scholars, archaeologists, art historians, art dealers and collectors from all over the world.

I will remain forever grateful to my promotor Prof. Dr. Christiaan Jörg. His supervision and the fascinating discussions we had in person, via email and phone, opened up new perspectives and broadened my knowledge, enriching substantially the contents of the dissertation. I am also indebted to Prof. Dr. Anne Gerritsen for her support.

I am especially grateful for the comments and suggestions of the reading committee. Prof. Dr. Jos J.L. Gommans, Prof. Dr. Titus M. Eliëns, Dr. Eva Ströber, Dr. Jan van Campen, Dr. Rose Kerr, and Prof. Peter Y.K. Lam, all helped to refine my ideas and to improve and highlight crucial aspects of the study. I would also like to thank Annemarie Jordan Gschwend for her kindness in accepting to be an outsider reader and for her valuable suggestions.

I express my deepest gratitude to a number of directors and curators from museums and other public and educational institutions around the world, as well as to clerics and other individuals from monasteries and churches in Portugal and Spain, for providing me with information about specific aspects of their areas of specialization, and/or granting me permission to include in the dissertation images of textiles or objects from their collections.

I would also like to acknowledge the exceeding generosity of many scholars, and terrestrial and marine archaeologists who shared with me their research finds, and also granted me permission to illustrate some of them. I owe a particular debt of gratitude to the Chinese archaeologists: Prof. Li Jian'an from Fuzhou; and Prof. Cao Jianwen, Huang Wei and Huang Qinghua from Jingdezhen, who were instrumental in permitting me to visit various kiln sites in their respective provinces, and discussed with me their recent archaeological finds during my visits to China. I express my gratitude to the following people: In Argentina to Luis María Calvo; in Bermuda to Charlotte Andrews, Elena Strong, and Wendy S. Tucker; in Canada to Aaron Miller; in Chile to Mónica Barrera, Claudia Prado and Verónica Reyes; in China to Prof. Liu Zhaohui; in Cuba to Dr. Lourdes Domínguez; in Denmark to Peter Kristiansen; in the Dominican Republic to Pedro Borrell, Tracy Bowden, Juan López, Violeta Martínez, Juan Pérez Morales, Tania Pitaluga, Federico Schad, and Francis Soto; in France to Franck Goddio; in Germany to Prof. Dr. Dagmar Eichberger, and Daniel Suebsman; in India to Nizamudin Taher, Rohini Pande and Abhijit Ambekar; in Italy to Prof. Francesco Morena, and Maura Rinaldi; in Japan to Nogami Takenori; in Malaysia to Sten Sjostrand; in Mauritius to Yann Von Arnim; in Macao to Roy Sit Kai Sin; in Mexico to Patricia Fournier García, Susana Gómez Serafín, and Eladio Terreros; in Peru to Miguel Fhon, and Juan Mogrovejo; in Portugal to Salomé Abreu, Francisco Alves, José António Bettencourt, Iva Botelho, Catarina Garcia, Lúgia Inês Gambini, Mathilda Larsson, James W. Nelson Novoa, Luís Rufo, Dr. Nuno Senos, Miguel Serra, Mário Varela Gomes, and Nuno Vasallo e Silva; in South Africa to Dr. Valerie

Esterhuizen, and Jane Klose; in Spain to María Isabel Álvaro Zamora, Rosa Benavides; Antonio F. Dávila Serrano, Dr. José Gasch-Tomás, Yayoi Kawamura, Dr. Cinta Krahe, José Manuel Casado Paramio, Alfonso Martín Flores, Laura Pérez Vega, Fernando Rodríguez Suarez, and Father Lázaro Sastre; in Switzerland to Prof. Dr. Christine Göttler; in Taiwan to Dr. Lu Tai-Kang, and Dr. Sakai Takashi; in The Netherlands to Johann Bisschop, Bruno Blondé, Dr. Jan de Hond, Miguel Gomes da Costa, Alejandro Mirabal, Sebastiaan Ostkamp, Dr. Jet Pijzel-Dommise, Dr. Dries Raeymaekers, Christine van der Pijl-Ketel, and Jan Veenendaal; in the United Kingdom to John P. Allan, Malcolm Barret, David Beasley, Thomas Cadbury, Philippa Glanville, Dr. Todd Gray, Chris Jarret, Jenny Liddle, Dr. Li Baoping, Val Maxfield, Gill Neal, Jacqueline Pierce, and Stuart Tyler; in the United States to Mari-Tere Alvarez, Karina Corrigan, Chester DePratter, Jack Harbeston, Paul Huey, George Kuwayama, Linda Pomper, Jeffrey Quilter, Cordelia Thomas Snow, Filipe Vieira de Castro, and Edward von der Porten.

I also owe my gratitude to auction houses and specialist dealers in Chinese, Japanese and European fine and decorative arts. In England I am thankful to Altea Gallery; Martin Roberts, Jacqueline Simcox, Johnny van Haeften, Old Masters & Early British Paintings Department, Christie's London; and Luísa Vinhais and Jorge Welsh; in Germany to Frieder Aichele; in The Netherlands to Rob Bruil; in New York to Katsura Yamaguchi, Christie's New York. Katharine Butler in England; Tom and Nancy Lurie in the United States; and Werner Troesch in Switzerland were generous in allowing me to examine their porcelain collections, and providing me with images for research purposes.

I would like to make special mention of my colleagues and friends Beth Gardiner and Vivian Tong for their constant support. I am greatly indebted to Beth for the time and energy she devoted to reading and revising this dissertation, and to Vivian for her assistance in translating Chinese texts. I would also like to acknowledge the outstanding work of the graphic designer Welmoet Wartena, whose great creativity and many hours of work enabled me to present this dissertation in book format.

I am eternally grateful to my family, my husband José Antonio Canepa and my three children Gianfranco, José Antonio and Daniela Flavia. Without their love, constant encouragement, support and patience it would not have been possible to complete this study. I am especially grateful to Daniela for accompanying me in several research trips. I would also like to express my gratitude to my parents Pedro Llorens and Maria Teresa Planella, who through their professional careers introduced me to Chinese and Japanese culture and art, as well as to archaeology. I also owe a special word of thanks to my mother and Dr. Viviana Manriquez for helping me with transcriptions of sixteenth and early seventeenth-century Spanish and Portuguese texts.

Conversions of units of length, weight and currencies in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries

Length

1 li = .40057 miles = .6464 km.

1 Che Foot (*che*) = 12.3 inches = 35.81 cm

1 vara = 0.836 meters

1 *palmo de vara* = 22 cm

Weight

1 *picul (dan)* = 100 *catties* = approx. 133 pounds = approx. 60 kilograms

1 *catti* or *cate (jin)* = 20.8 ounces to the pound

1 *arroba* = 25 *libras* (25 pounds)

1 *quintal* = 4 *arobas* = approx. 130 pounds

1 *libra* (1 pound) = 16 *onzas* (16 ounces) = 460.09 grams

Currency

Portugal

1 *cruzado* = 360 *réis* (sixteenth century), 400 *réis* (seventeenth century)

1 *ducado* = approx. 345 to 360 *réis*

1 peso = approx. 320 *réis*

Spain

1 *real* = 34 *maravedís*

1 *real de a 4* or *tostón* (1 real of 4 pieces) = 136 *maravedís*

1 *real de a 8* or *peso* (1 real of 8 pieces) = 272 *maravedís* = 400 Portuguese *réis*

1 *ducado* (ducat) = 375 *maravedís*

Spanish colonies in the New World and the Philippines

1 *peso de oro común* (1 peso of 8 pieces) = 8 *reales o tomines* = 272 *maravedís*

1 *real o tomin* = 34 *maravedís*

1 *peso de oro de mina* = 450 *maravedís*

Northern Netherlands/Dutch Republic

1 *guilder* (guilder) or *florin* = 28 *stuivers* = 0.36 Portuguese *cruzados* of 400 *réis*

1 *stuiver* = 8 *duit*

England

1 *pound* = 20 *shillings* = 4 Portuguese *cruzados* of 400 *réis*

1 *shilling* = 12 *pennies*

VOC in Japan

1 *tael (thael or thail)* = 10 *mas (maes)* = 100 *condarijn (condrin)*

1 *rial (real, rael de Ocho, Spaanse mat)* = approx. 6.5 *shillings* = 2.5 *guilders*

Abbreviations

ACA	Arundel Castle Archives, Arundel
ADEEC	Archivo del Departamento de Estudios Etnográficos y Coloniales, Santa Fe
AGI	Archivo General de las Indias, Seville
AGNP	Archivo General de las Notarías de Puebla, Puebla
AGS	Archivo General de Simancas, Simancas
AHEC	Archivo Histórico del Estado de Colima, Colima
AHMC	Archivo Histórico del Municipio de Colima, Colima
AHN	Archivo Histórico Nacional, Madrid
AHPM	Archivo Histórico de Protocolos de Madrid, Madrid
AHPNZ	Archivo Histórico de Protocolos Notariales de Zaragoza, Zaragoza
AHU	Arquivo Histórico Ultramarino, Azores
ANHQ	Archivo Nacional de Historia, Quito
AnotDF	Archivo de las Notarías del DF, Mexico City
ANTT	Archivo Nacional da Torre do Tombo, Lisbon
APMZ	Archivo del Palau, Marquesado del Zenete, Barcelona
ASCG	Archivum Storico Compagnia de Gesù, Rome
BA	Biblioteca da Ajuda, Lisbon
BNL	Biblioteca Nacional da Lisboa, Lisbon
CPS, Colonial	Calendar of Estate Papers, Colonial Series. East India, China and Japan
IANTT	Instituto dos Arquivos Nacionais Torre do Tombo, Lisbon
NA	Nationaal Archief, The Hague
NFJ	Nederlandse Factorij Japan
VOC	VOC Archives
Leg.	Legajo (Bundle)
Fol.	Folio (Page)
v.	verso

Chronologies of China and Japan in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries

Chronology of late Ming China

Reign title	Reign period
Chenghua	1465–1487
Hongzhi	1488–1505
Zhengde	1506–1521
Jiajing	1522–1566
Longqing	1567–1572
Wanli	1573–1620
Taichang	1620
Tianqi	1621–1627
Chongzhen	1628–1644

Chronology of Muromachi/early Edo Japan

Muromachi period	1333–1573
Momoyama period	1573–1615
Bunroku era	1592–1596
Keichō era	1596–1615
Edo period	1615–1868
Kan'ei era	1624–1644