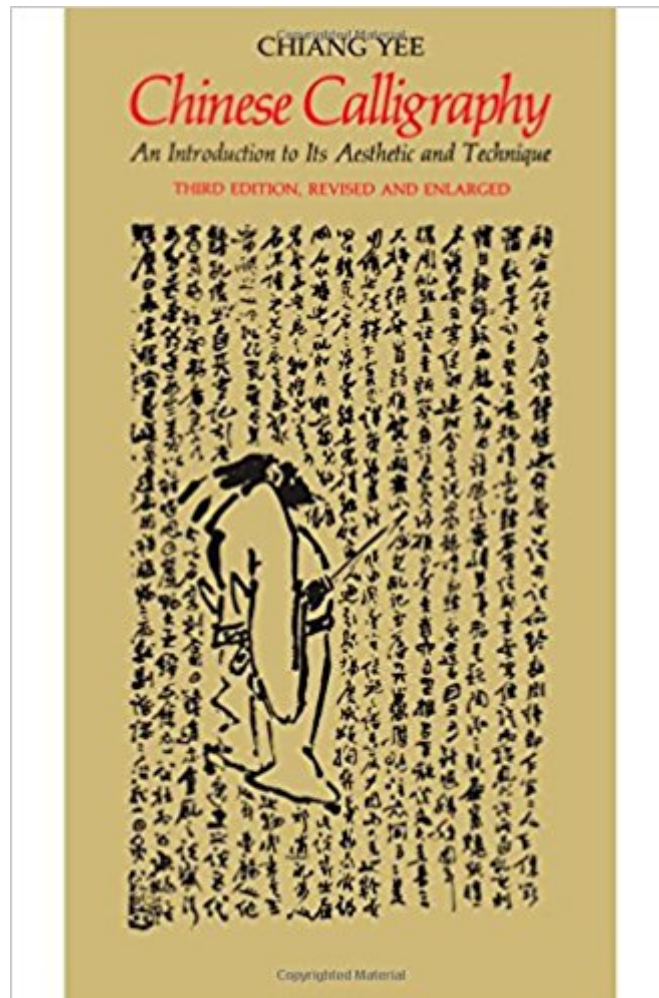


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Chinese Calligraphy: An Introduction To Its Aesthetic And Technique



Synopsis

This is the classic introduction to Chinese calligraphy. In nine richly illustrated chapters Chiang Yee explores the aesthetics and the technique of this art in which rhythm, line, and structure are perfectly embodied. He measures the slow change from pictograph to stroke to the style and shape of written characters by the great calligraphers. Speech and writing are two organs of the same human impulse--the conveyance of thought: the one operating through hearing, the other through sight; the one by sound from mouth to ear, the other by form or image from hand to eye. But each can do something besides convey thought. Spoken words can be so arranged as to discharge aesthetic "musical" significances, as in much Western poetry. Written words can be formed to liberate visual beauties; and it is these which form the subject of this book. In addition to aesthetic considerations, the text deals with such more practical subjects as the origin and construction of the Chinese characters, styles, technique, strokes, composition, training, and the relations between calligraphy and other forms of Chinese art. For the third edition the author has added two new chapters: "Calligraphy and Painting" discusses the dependence of Chinese painting on calligraphic training and techniques; "Aesthetic Principles" explores the fundamental concepts underlying every Chinese art form. Chinese Calligraphy is a superb appreciation of beauty in the movement of strokes and in the patterns of structure--and an inspiration to amateurs as well as professionals interested in the decorative arts.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A splendid book in which the plates alone would make a valuable acquisition. Mr. Chiang is the confident master, writing in a manner that is both businesslike and imaginative. (The Times of London)

This is the classic introduction to Chinese calligraphy. In nine richly illustrated chapters Mr. Chiang explores the aesthetics and the technique of this art in which rhythm, line, and structure are perfectly embodied. He measures the slow change from pictograph to stroke to the style and shape of written characters by the great calligraphers. It is a superb appreciation of beauty in the movement of strokes and in the patterns of structure--and an inspiration to amateurs as well as professionals interested in the decorative arts.

A classic. I misplaced my original copy from years ago, so got this to replace it. There really aren't any calligraphy books out there that have a thoughtful discussion of technique and the sample characters that he presented coincidentally corresponded mostly to those I was learning in class.

I like this old a bit book not only because of its name value but very balanced view of author on Chinese art of calligraphy. I think this is a must have book if someone is going to study Chinese art beside the calligraphy and help understand Chinese art in general. It's proven by its 13th print in total.

interesting, though I was hoping for more technique - a little less history

A very clear and easy to understand introduction into Chinese Calligraphy. Excellent summary for students of this art, especially for beginners.

good condition

My professor used this, and he's an authority on Song Dynasty poetry; it was such a good companion to the art class.

I greatly appreciated that this text was very approachable for a layperson. Parts did feel a bit silly, but I'm not a renowned expert in Chinese calligraphy so maybe that's because I didn't get it. In general this book was what I was looking for: a basic introduction to appreciating Chinese

calligraphy.

it is good

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