

ASIAN ART IN THE WORLD

Historical influences on culture and society

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ABSTRACT

The blue, and the binding sea. Influences and dissemination of Portuguese 17th century ceramics

Chinese porcelain has arrived in Lisbon's port in significant quantities since the beginning of the 16th century, igniting a longing desire for the exoticism of this exquisite commodity.

The stark white backgrounds and the beauty of the strange blue images of a faraway culture gradually merged with Portuguese imagery. After Portugal was annexed by the Spanish crown towards the end of the 16th century, a growing resistance to ceramic production from this nation emerged. Lisbon's manufactures began to create a novel ceramic that was influenced by Chinese porcelain, both for domestic use and for sale to various European markets. We can discern various aesthetics when comparing the assorted products and the markets they were designed for, which is likely related to the expectations these regions had for Chinese porcelain.

This tale has been forgotten. A depiction of a long-gone civilization that was connected from East to West, spanning most of Europe and other continents, bounded by the planet's oceans.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Director of the Museu Nacional do Azulejo / National Tile Museum, Lisbon (2021), holds a PhD in Art Theory/Art History (2012) from the Catholic University of Portugal

(UCP) focused in 16th to 18th century Portuguese ceramics.

Author and co-author of a large number of national and international studies, books, articles and other publications in cultural heritage and in Portuguese azulejos, Art History, Technical Art History, Iconology and Museum inventory. Other current research interests include Archeology and scientific domains applied to the studies of ceramics (especially Chemistry and Geology).

Curator in the National Tile Museum for 26 years, as worked in the Laboratory José de Figueiredo, Lisbon (4 years) and Pena Palace, Sintra (7 years). Has a diverse teaching experience and an extensive presence as speaker in national and international Congresses, Seminars and Conferences in different countries of four continents.