

New Discoveries of the General Portraits and Related Works in the Berlin Collection

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Abstract

This essay aims to research the general portraits and related works that are (were) separately in the collections of Museum für Asiatische Kunst and Ethnologisches Museum, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin. The works include: (1) *Machang Lays Low the Enemy Ranks* (*Machang zhuozhen tu*); (2) General portraits in oil; (3) General portraits in hand-scroll format; and (4) General portraits in hanging scroll format. First the author reviews the current research status in the field. Second, not only completely publishing the visual materials of the general portraits and related works in the Berlin collection, the provenances and collecting history of this group of works will also be revealed and discussed. Last, base on the current research results and new discoveries, the author reconstructs the pattern of production of the general portraits and *Machang Lays Low the Enemy Ranks* commissioned by Emperor Qianlong, as well as re-identifies the painters of some certain works and re-dates those works to place them back to their original contexts.

Keywords: Ziguangge, general portraits, Lang Shining (Giuseppe Castiglione), Machang, oil painting