Chinese Cultural Heritage in KIK-IRPA’s photographic inventory

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• KIK-IRPA’s photographic inventory
  • Mainly B/W (± 90%)
  • Photographs of items in other institutions

• Selected items for this presentation (mainly colour)
  • Chinoiseries
  • Ceramics
  • Sculpture
  • Painting
  • Textiles
  • Masks
  • Furniture
  • Archaeology
Chinoiseries / Chinese “export”

Decorative plates from collections in Antwerp, Saint-Gilles (Brussels) and Ghent, 18th century [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, M106275 - X141922 - M115358]
Ceramics

2 Fô lions, 19th century, Museum voor Oudheidkunde en Sierkunst en Schone Kunsten (Kortrijk) [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, KM011221 & KM011220]
Sculpture

Bouddha head, 7th-9th c. – Bouddha sitting, 18th c. – God of War, 18th c. (Bijlokomuseum/STAM, Ghent) [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, M206909 - M206795 - M206868]
Sculpture (restoration/conservation)

Bodhisattva head (before/after restoration), 17th century, Musée royal de Mariemont (Morlanwelz-Mariemont) [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, KN005929 & KN007548]
Sculpture (restoration/conservation)

Bodhisattva head (before/after restoration), 17th century, Musée royal de Mariemont (Morlanwelz-Mariemont) [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, KN005939 & KN007555]
Painting

Qian Hui’an (1833-1911), Pair of paintings on one roll, late 19th century, A&H Museum (Brussels) [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, KN003385 & KN003384]
Painting (zoom detail)

Qian Hui’an (1833-1911), Pair of paintings on one roll (detail), late 19th century, A&H Museum (Brussels) [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, KN003384]
Legend of the magic peach, 18th century, MAS (Antwerp) [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, Di071585]
Textiles

Traditional costume, ca 1740, A&H Museum (Brussels) [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, Di071664 & Di071665]
Textiles

Dress in silk mesh with embroidered butterflies, late 19th century, A&H Museum (Brussels) [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, KN003381 - KN003383 - KN003382]
Theatre Masks

3 masks (Nuo theatre), 19th century, International Carnival and Mask Museum (Binche) [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, KM014050 - KM014043 – KM013876]
Furniture

Small cupboard, 17th-18th century, Bijloke museum/STAM (Ghent) & Tea table, 15th-17th century, Design Museum (Ghent) [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, M205128 & M125670]
Archaeology

Chariot with ox, -199 (BCE) – 300, A&H Museum (Brussels) & Horse head, -206 (BCE) – 220, Musée royal de Mariemont [CC BY-SA KIK-IRPA, Brussels, N015569 & A114392]
Conclusions

• KIK-IRPA’s Chinese cultural heritage photographs:
  • ± 5,000 items = 0,05 % of the collection of negatives (not complete)
  • Focus: fine arts in/of what’s now called Belgium from 14th to 19th century
  • Incomplete or uncontrolled metadata
  • Lack of expertise for out of scope domains
  • Physical collections not (physically) available/accessible (anymore)
  • Spanning multiple institutions when looking for themes/objects/artists/…
  • Collaboration opportunities
  • …
THANK YOU!

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