

## Spencer Art Reference Library

### Library Guide

#### Jade



*Life-Size Jade Burial Suit with Gold Thread, China,  
Western Han Dynasty (206 B.C.E.-9 C.E.)*

#### Resource List | 2017

Jade is a semi-precious hardstone that has been carved and collected throughout the world, but which has a special importance in Chinese culture. In ancient China jade was rare and expensive and became a symbol of power but jade is also valued as a symbol of virtue and longevity and for its ability to ward off evil and promote peace. In association with the exhibition *Dreams of the Kings: A Jade Suit for Eternity*, we present this bibliography on the art of jade. In this list, we have included titles about jade in Chinese culture, and items about the archaeology of Chinese tombs. The Spencer Art Reference Library collects in ten languages including Chinese, Japanese and Korean but in this guide we have highlighted English language resources. For additional resources in Chinese, Japanese and Korea please check the library's online catalog, <http://libraryonsearch.nelson-atkins.org>

If you have questions, please contact the reference staff at the Spencer Art Reference Library (telephone: 816.751.1216). Library hours and services are listed on the Museum's website at [www.nelson-atkins.org](http://www.nelson-atkins.org)

Selected by:

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#### Jade in China

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Image Credit: *Life-Size Jade Burial Suit with Gold  
Thread*, China, Western Han Dynasty (206  
B.C.E.-9 C.E.). Excavated from the tomb of the  
King of Chu at Shizishan, Xuzhou in 1995.  
69 x 26 13/16 inches.

### Additional Specialized Sources

The English language *WenWu (Cultural Relics)*  
archive is available for searching 2014 – 2016:  
<https://dlib.eastview.com/browse/publication/65558>

#### *Bibliography of Asian Art (BAS)*

This subscription database is available in the  
Spencer Art Reference Library and allows  
researchers to search over 900,000 citations of  
scholarly literature on the East, Southwest and  
South Asian materials written in Western  
Language.

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