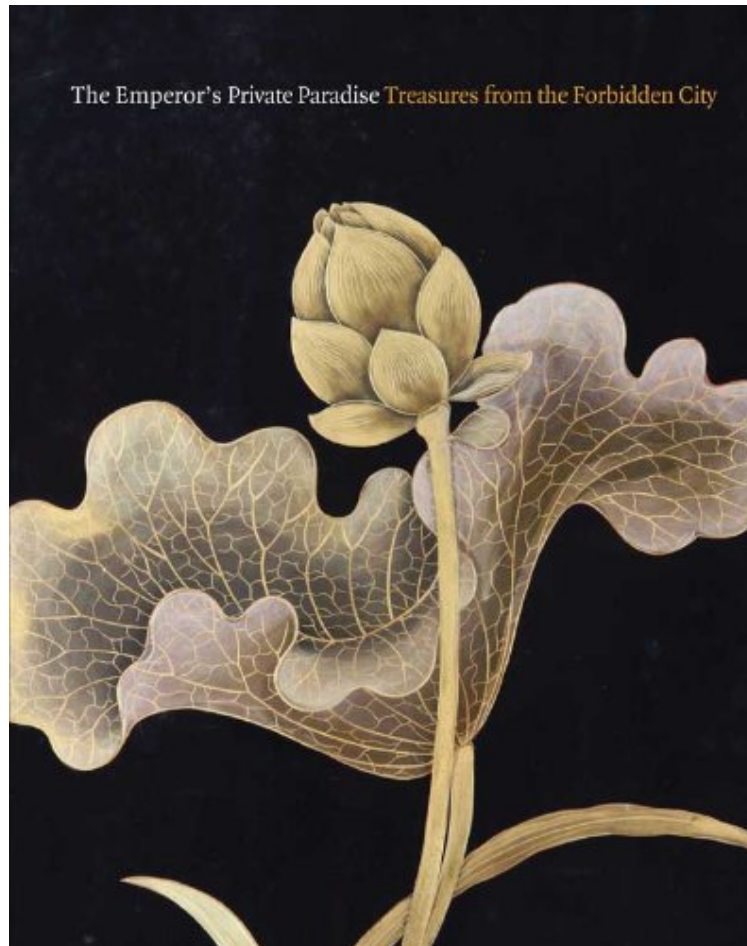


(Free) The Emperor's Private Paradise: Treasures from the Forbidden City

The Emperor's Private Paradise: Treasures from the Forbidden City

Nancy Berliner

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Nancy Berliner : The Emperor's Private Paradise: Treasures from the Forbidden City before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Emperor's Private Paradise: Treasures from the Forbidden City:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Yale Press wins againBy hhAs is usual with Yale Press, this volume is quite nice. First thing you notice is the heft (just 250 pgs, but quite heavy because they use excellent stock). Text may be a little thin for some, but here the pix are the thing. Page 37 has an amazing court fan, but most of the shock and awe is saved for the second half of the book (wall paintings, table screens, cabinets, wall screens, architectural shots, etc). There is also a catalog at the end for easy reference. So why not 5 stars? The typical roof shots that open the volume and subsequent calligraphic pix are less than exciting.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. An OK bookBy A Chinese Art CollectorA nice book. However, I think the previous two reviewers remarks are quite

reasonable:1. Lacking of depth2. Focused on the garden and the interior decoration. However, the quality of the items are not very good. Comparing with "China: The Three Emperors 1662-1795", this book lacks of real treasure.3. A good reference, if you want to add more Chinese-related books on your shelf.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Rock formations and secret gardensBy David SangsterGreat photos of the emperor's secret gardens and rock formations - special for China buffs. The rest of the palace is also great - you can find other views in a few books.

For centuries, China's Forbidden City has captured the world's imagination. With parts open to the public since 1925, nearly 8 million tourists flock there annually. Yet the elegant, intimate Qianlong Garden itself a mini-Forbidden City inside the Forbidden City has remained sequestered from view. Dating from the 18th century, the Qianlong Garden was built as a retirement retreat for its namesake emperor, a visionary patron of the arts who designed his garden to reflect a perfect union of art, architecture, and nature. Now undergoing restoration thanks to a groundbreaking international collaboration, it is intended to be open fully to visitors in 2019. *The Emperors Private Paradise* gives an unprecedented and in-depth analysis of the garden and its extravagant imperial interiors. Essays offer an overview of the history of Chinese gardens and the extraordinary reign of the Qianlong emperor, while contextualizing the importance of the Qianlong Garden and its artworks. This lavishly illustrated volume is published to accompany a remarkable exhibition of ninety objects from the Qianlong Garden, many of them never seen before, including superlative examples of Qing murals, paintings, wall coverings, furniture, architectural elements, and jades. By illuminating this little-known yet architecturally significant area of the Forbidden City, this volume represents a major contribution to the fields of Chinese art, history, architecture, and gardens.