

INSPIRED BY OBJECTS IN THE TANG SHIPWRECK GALLERY & THE SCHOLAR IN CHINESE CULTURE GALLERY

a new line of MUSEUM LABEL merchandise.



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To celebrate the opening of the Tang Shipwreck Gallery & the Scholar in Chinese Culture Gallery, MUSEUM LABEL has collaborated with Arch Singapore to specially design two unique ranges of handmade veneer accessories and stationery. These beautifully designed pieces draw inspiration from the remarkable ceramic, gold, and silver objects found in the shipwreck cargo, as well as the rich art associated with the lives of Chinese scholars and the culture of the Chinese imperial courts.

Tang Gallery

In 1998, a shipwreck was discovered just off Belitung Island on the edge of the Java Sea. It contained a remarkable cargo of more than 60,000 ceramics produced in China during the Tang dynasty 唐朝 (618–907), as well as luxurious objects of gold and silver.

The Tang Shipwreck reveals that Singapore's region lay at the heart of a global trading network in the 9th century. This network rivalled the more famous Silk Route through Central Asia. The success of Singapore as an exchange point of global shipping thus has ancient roots. The beautiful objects of exceptional rarity testify to the ingenuity of artists and merchants, and show that exotic objects have long been appreciated by the world's consumers.

Scholar in Chinese Culture Gallery

The Scholar in Chinese Culture Gallery at the Asian Civilisations Museum displays objects associated with Chinese scholars and officials, as well as merchants who aspired to be like them. For centuries, the scholar represented an ideal. Reverence for the scholar and fascination with the culture of the imperial courts has long inspired artists and collectors. The ancient bronzes, fine furniture, paintings, textiles, and other objects in this gallery show how ancestral Chinese art was appropriated and re-interpreted over time. Chinese Singaporeans, mostly merchants and traders, who ventured from China to seek their fortunes, collected such objects as status symbols and reminders of their homeland. They forged new identities for themselves via these traditional cultural markers.

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