

# CHRISTIE'S

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CHRISTIE'S ANNOUNCES

## ***Shang: Early Chinese Ritual Bronzes from the Daniel Shapiro Collection***

Preview in Hong Kong | 27 – 29 November 2020  
Auction in New York | 18 March 2021



**THE LUBOSHEZ GONG**  
AN EXCEPTIONAL AND HIGHLY IMPORTANT BRONZE  
RITUAL WINE VESSEL AND COVER  
LATE SHANG DYNASTY, ANYANG, 13<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> CENTURY BC  
Luboshez 舊藏 晚商 安陽時期 青銅虎鳥獸紋觥  
11 ¾ in. (29.8 cm.) long  
Estimate: \$4,000,000 – 6,000,000



**A VERY RARE BRONZE RITUAL RECTANGULAR  
WINE VESSEL AND COVER, FANGYI**  
LATE SHANG DYNASTY, ANYANG, 12<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY BC  
晚商 安陽時期 青銅饕餮紋方彝  
8 ¾ in. (22 cm.) high  
Estimate: \$600,000-800,000

**New York** – Christie's New York is pleased to present ***Shang: Early Chinese Ritual Bronzes from the Daniel Shapiro Collection***, a dedicated live auction on 18 March 2021. The sale features exceptional examples from China's formative Shang bronze culture from a renowned American collection formed over a span of twenty-five years. These sophisticated pieces provide a glimpse into the spiritual world and mysterious rituals of China's ancient culture and are among the world's most extraordinary works of art. Two of the sale's highlights will be unveiled in Hong Kong beginning 27 November 2020.

Leading the sale is **The Luboshez Gong** (estimate: \$4-6 million), a magnificent and highly important bronze ritual wine vessel. Dating to the 13<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> century BC, the vessel combines a pouncing tiger with a standing owl forming a powerful, fantastic creature. Acquired by Captain S.N. Ferris Luboshez in Shanghai in 1948, few similar examples are known, one of which is in the Harvard Art Museums. Also of special interest is a rare ritual wine vessel with cover, *fangyi*, formerly in the collection of Mr. and Mrs. Rafi Mottahedeh. The *fangyi*, a distinctive rectangular shape with elegantly tapered sides and a delicately rounded lid, is boldly decorated with striking *taotie* masks, flanked by a pair of long-tailed birds and confronting dragons divided by subtle flanges.

This important collection was published in the dedicated tome *Ancient Chinese Bronzes* (2013) with essays by leading American scholars: Robert D. Jacobsen, Chair of the Department of Asian Art Emeritus, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Robert D. Mowry, Curator of Chinese Art Emeritus Harvard Art Museums and Thomas Lawton, Director Emeritus, Freer Gallery of Art.

## TOUR

27-29 November 2020  
Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre  
No. 1 Harbor Road  
Wanchai, Hong Kong

## AUCTION

18 March 2021  
Christie's  
20 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, NY 10021

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## About Christie's

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*\*Please note when quoting estimates above that other fees will apply in addition to the hammer price - see Section D of the Conditions of Sale at the back of the sale catalogue.*

*\*Estimates do not include buyer's premium. Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and are reported net of applicable fees.*

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*Images available on request*

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