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An Introduction to the History of Chinese Pictorial Art (Paperback)

By Herbert Allen Giles

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Excerpt: . CHAPTER V A. D. 960--1260 The Sung Dynasty The fire-led Sung dynasty, which in 960 entered upon nearly three hundred years of political, literary, and artistic glory, now claims our attention. Its record of painters, extending to over eight hundred names, opens with several Imperial Princes, all of whom are sternly dealt with according to their merits, in such terms as these. His best efforts were in flowers; but his colouring was coarse, and he was deficient in life and movement. As an exception, we have Prince Chun, the fourth son of the Emperor Ying Tsung, who abdicated in 1066. He seems to have been a real artist; and between 1068 and 1085 he presented more than ten petitions to his brother, the Emperor Shen Tsung, asking to be allowed to retire into private life. But the Emperor found him a congenial companion,...



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