

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-18645-2 — Chinese Calligraphy
Tingyou Chen
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

Chinese Calligraphy

The art of calligraphy is seen as the epitome of Chinese culture. Originating in the earliest abstract symbols carved on cave walls, animal bones, and tortoise shells by the ancient Chinese people, over several thousand years calligraphy has become far more than a means of writing and recording events. This book provides an illustrated introduction to the history of calligraphy from the beginning of the Chinese written language, the methods and styles used by calligraphers through the ages, and the influence that calligraphy has had on modern art around the world.

Introductions to Chinese Culture

The thirty volumes in the Introductions to Chinese Culture series provide accessible overviews of particular aspects of Chinese culture written by a noted expert in the field concerned. The topics covered range from architecture to archaeology, from mythology and music to martial arts. Each volume is lavishly illustrated in full color and will appeal to students requiring an introductory survey of the subject, as well as to more general readers.

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-18645-2 — Chinese Calligraphy
Tingyou Chen
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

Chen Tingyou

CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-18645-2 — Chinese Calligraphy
Tingyou Chen
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,
São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press,
New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521186452

Originally published by China Intercontinental Press as
Chinese Calligraphy (9787508516950) in 2010

© China Intercontinental Press 2010

This updated edition is published by Cambridge University Press
with the permission of China Intercontinental Press under
the China Book International programme .

For more information on the China Book International programme, please visit
<http://www.cbi.gov.cn/wisework/content/10005.html>

Cambridge University Press retains copyright in its own contributions
to this updated edition

© Cambridge University Press 2011

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,
no reproduction of any part may take place without the written
permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2011

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-0-521-18645-2 Paperback

NOT FOR SALE IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (EXCLUDING
HONG KONG SAR, MACAU SAR AND TAIWAN)

Contents



Foreword: A Cultural Treasure of China 1

Chinese Characters 13

Unique Chinese Characters 14

Oracle Bone Inscriptions and
 Inscriptions on Bronze Objects 24

Official Script and Later Scripts 31

Four Treasures of the Study 37

Beauty of Calligraphy 45

Beauty of the strokes 46

Beauty of composition 49

Beauty of Integration 54

Creativity of Calligraphy 61

Diligent Practice 62

Conveying the Emotion of the Calligrapher 64

Expressing the Talent of the Calligrapher 69

Emotion, Wine and Running Style 73

Calligraphy and Chinese Culture 77

Calligraphy Masters 91

Father and Son: Leaders of the Time 92

Masters of the Tang Dynasty 97

Three Masters Focusing on Temperament and Taste 100

Modern Reforms 106





Renaissance of Calligraphy 113
The Splendor of Calligraphy Today 114
Chinese Calligraphy Spreads Worldwide 116

**Appendix: Chronological Table of the Chinese
Dynasties** 127

