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978-1-107-09436-9 - Art and Vision in the Inca Empire: Andeans and Europeans at Cajamarca

Adam Herring

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ART AND VISION IN THE INCA EMPIRE

ANDEANS AND EUROPEANS AT CAJAMARCA

In 1500 C.E., the Inca empire covered most of South America's Andean region. That empire's leaders first met Europeans on 15 November 1532 when a large Inca army confronted Francisco Pizarro's band of adventurers in the highland Andean valley of Cajamarca, Peru. At few other times in its history would the Inca royal leadership so aggressively showcase its moral authority and political power. Glittering and truculent, what Europeans witnessed at Inca Cajamarca compels revised understandings of pre-contact Inca visual art, spatial practice, and bodily expression. This book takes a fresh look at the encounter at Cajamarca, using the episode to offer a new, art-historical interpretation of pre-contact Inca culture and power. Adam Herring's study offers close readings of Inca and Andean art in a variety of media: architecture and landscape, geoglyphs, sculpture, textiles, ceramics, featherwork, and metalwork. The volume is richly illustrated with more than sixty color images.

Adam Herring is Associate Professor of Art History in the Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University. He is author of *Art and Writing in the Maya Cities, AD 600–800: A Poetics of Line* (Cambridge University Press, 2005).

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