



Asian Art from Rose Court

Court Ladies Tang Dynasty AD 618 -907

There are certain westerners who have always been fascinated with Chinese culture. Karen Schlansky is one of them. From her home in northern Westchester County, she and her husband, Mitchell, and her brother Jeffrey Schwarz, run Rose Court Asian Antiques, a private business that has come to be counted on for collectible pieces that date as far back as the Han Dynasty of the 2nd century.

The home is a veritable showcase of Asian pieces from China's Han, Tang and Ming Dynasties. On view are prancing horse sculptures, which symbolized speed and prosperity in ancient China, along with statures of court ladies and musicians on horseback.

Helping the Asian art business is the upsurge in interest in all things Chinese, which was sparked by the Guggenheim Museum's 1997 show, "5000 Years of Chinese History," and more recently by last year's show at the Metropolitan Museum of Chinese antiquities.

Karen Schlansky, studied art at Skidmore College, but didn't become a professional art dealer until recently. She had occasion to travel to China to help with her father's leather business. (Chinese leather has been used for years to make lacquered boxes and trunks.) "I really began collecting years ago for myself, she explains. Only as friends and family asked her to select pieces during her travels did she consider becoming a professional dealer. Her home is homage to Chinese art, which collectors can view by appointment or on the internet at www.RoseCourtAsianAntiques.com.

"When I meet clients I try to give them an education," says Karen. "I want them to know what the piece was about."

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