Non-Western Art History

The Art of Korea

Major Characteristics of Korean Art
- Midway between China and Japan, Korea interacted with both cultures
- China’s culture, technology, writing system, governmental systems greatly influenced Korea
- Korea developed superb ceramics technology and techniques
- Influenced by three religions
  - Shamanism pervasive through much of Korea’s history
  - Buddhism
  - Confucianism

Korean Historical Periods
- Neolithic and Bronze Age 7,000 BC – 1st century AD
- Three Kingdoms 57 BC – 668 AD
  - Goguryeo
  - Baekje (Paecheke)
  - Unified Silla 668 – 935
- Goryeo (Koryo) Dynasty 918 - 1392
- Joseon (Choson) Dynasty 1392 - 1910

Neolithic Jar, 2nd century BC, H: 8.5 inches, Earthenware, Minneapolis Institute of Art

Pair of Earrings (Three Kingdoms) 6th century, H: 4 inches, Gold, Metropolitan Museum of Art
End

Art of Korea

Stand (Three Kingdoms Period), 5th – 6th century, H: 14.75 inches, Stoneware with ash glaze, Metropolitan Museum of Art


Jar (United Silla) 668 – 935, H: 7.25 inches, Stoneware, Minneapolis Institute of Art

Pensive Bodhisattva, Mid-7th century, H: 8.75 Inches, Gilt Bronze, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Bottle (Goryeo Celadon) 13th – 14th century, H: 13.5 inches, Stoneware with incised chrysanthemum designs, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Maebyeong Vase Early 14th century, H: 13.5 inches, Stoneware with inlaid designs under celadon glass, Metropolitan Museum of Art
Joseon (Early Dawn) Kingdom

- Ended Mongol dominance and fueled cultural renaissance
- Neo-Confucianism officially adopted by the court who promoted secular art and culture
- Members of the royal family commissioned important Buddhist art for private devotion and public dissemination of the faith.
- White porcelain was the dominant form of ceramics, highly restricted and coveted luxury item
- Landscape painting blended Chinese conventions with Korean characteristics.

Bowl (Joseon Dynasty), 2nd half 15th century, H: 3 inches, Stoneware with inlaid and stamped decoration under buncheong glaze, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Bowl (Joseon Dynasty), 2nd half 15th century, H: 3 inches, D: 8 inches Stoneware with inlaid and stamped decoration under buncheong glaze, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Wine Cup (Joseon Dynasty) 15th century, H: 1.5 inches, D: 4.5 inches White porcelain, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Landscape in the style of An Gyeon (Evening Bell from Mist-Shrouded Temple) 15th century, Unknown Artist, H: 35 inches, Ink on silk, Metropolitan Museum of Art
Landscape in the style of An Gyeon (Autumn Moon over Lake Dongting) 
15th century, Unknown Artist, 
H: 35 inches, Ink on silk, 
Metropolitan Museum of Art

Dragon Jar 
Joseon (Chosun) Dynasty, 
H: 18.25 inches, 
Porcelain with underglaze cobalt design, 
Minneapolis Institute of Art

Attendant to the King of Hell 
Chosun Dynasty, H: 29.5 inches, 
Painted Wood, 
Minneapolis Institute of Art

Dancer and Musicians: From Genre Paintings by Danwon Kim Hongdo (1745 – ca. 1806) 
Late 18th century, H: 11 inches, Ink and light color on paper, 
National Museum of Korea, Seoul

This ends our presentation on the Art of Korea.