

860. VASE

Cu Lao Cham shipwreck, late 15th century

Stoneware, H: 57 cm × D: 40 cm

National Museum of Vietnamese History, Ha Noi, LSb 24539

Today, the potters who create the vessels at Vietnamese kiln sites are not the same people who paint the wares. We cannot be certain if this was the case in the past, but in any event, the artist who painted the landscape scene that fills the middle register of this large vase was a master. The three depictions of the goose that encircle the band reveal an artist observant of the world around him; the goose stands with neck outstretched as it honks, then flies, and finally tucks its beak into its wing feathers as it sleeps. Not content just to depict the bird in its various postures, the artist has set the bird in the foreground amid landscapes of distant mountains and outcroppings of rock and bamboo that are diminished by its scale. Clouds are captured in the narrow band above this register, and waves appear in the band below.

LITERATURE

Lambrecht and Schicklgruber, *Vietnam: Art et cultures de la préhistoire à nos jours (Vietnam: Art and culture from prehistoric times to the present)*, 2003; *Co Vat Viet Nam (Vietnamese Antiquities)*, 2003.

