



國立故宮博物院
NATIONAL PALACE MUSEUM



文物中的奇幻生物

神獸再現

THE RETURN OF
MYTHICAL CREATURES
IN ARTIFACTS



神獸再現 —— 文物中的奇幻生物

您是否曾注意過，廟宇前面的石獅子和動物園裡的真獅子，長得不太一樣呢？其實東亞並不生產獅子，而古人對於獅子的認知是建立在傳聞、觀察與想像上，這種落差，反映出古人對自然萬象抱持著既敬畏又崇拜的情感。他們透過構築神話，將未知的力量，賦予在神祇和型態各異的「神獸」上。

「神獸」形象隨著數千年的推演，牠們不僅是神靈與信仰的化身，更寄託歷代人們對於理想生活的投射和祝福。本次特展以東亞文化圈為核心，跨越上古先秦到近現代，選件從青銅器到一般家中陳設，更攜手財團法人北港朝天宮、國立臺灣歷史博物館，擴大展品面向，透過不同層次的文物，呈現神獸文化的豐富與多樣。

展覽將從：「神獸長什麼樣子？」、「神獸是什麼地位？」、「神獸有什麼特殊能力？」、「神獸出現在哪裡？」等四個提問，並從追溯經典來源出發，帶領大家探索這些神祕生物的前世今生。希望您觀展時，除了「奇怪的知識增加了」之外，更能領略古代藝術家們如何僅憑文字紀錄或口耳相傳，就將奇幻生物具象化為令人驚嘆的作品。這種實現想像的創造力，在即將到來的AI時代尤為珍貴。

Have you ever noticed that the stone lions in front of temples do not look quite the same as the real lions you see in zoos? In fact, lions are not native to East Asia, and what people in antiquity knew about them was based on hearsay, fleeting glimpses, and imagination. This gap reveals an attitude towards the natural world that combined awe with reverence: By constructing myths, they projected unknown forces onto deities and a wide variety of 'mythical creatures'.

Over millennia, these creatures have evolved beyond embodiments of the divine to become vessels for humanity's hopes and blessings. Centered on the East Asian cultural sphere, this exhibition spans from pre-Qin antiquity to the modern era and features works from ancient bronzes to everyday household objects. Presented in collaboration with Beigang Chao-Tian Temple and the National Museum of Taiwan History, it reveals the richness and diversity of mythical creature culture.

The exhibition is structured around four guiding questions: what do mythical creatures look like, what status do they hold, what special powers do they have, and where do they appear? Drawing on classical texts, it traces the origins and transformations of these mysterious creatures.

We hope your visit will offer more than mere curiosities and new information, that you will also come to appreciate how artists, armed with nothing but words and oral traditions, gave tangible form to fantastical beings. In the dawning age of AI, this power to realize the imaginary is more precious than ever.

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2026 第1檔 3.20—6.7 第2檔 6.10—8.30

北部院區第一展覽館
Exhibition Hall 1,
Northern Branch

105,107

主辦單位 Organizer



國立故宮博物院
NATIONAL PALACE MUSEUM

借展單位 Exhibition Lender



國立臺灣歷史博物館
NMTL National Museum of Taiwan History



北港朝天宮
Beigang Chao-Tian Temple

111001 臺北市士林區至善路二段221號 | Tel: +886-2-2881-2021

No. 221, Sec. 2, Zhishan Rd., Shilin Dist., Taipei City 111001, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

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