

BUDDHIST CALLIGRAPHY IN TANG CHINA

par M. **PIETRO DE LAURENTIS**
Professeur à la **GUANGZHOU**
ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS
廣州美術學院

LE 15 SEPTEMBRE 2023
DE 14H À 16H

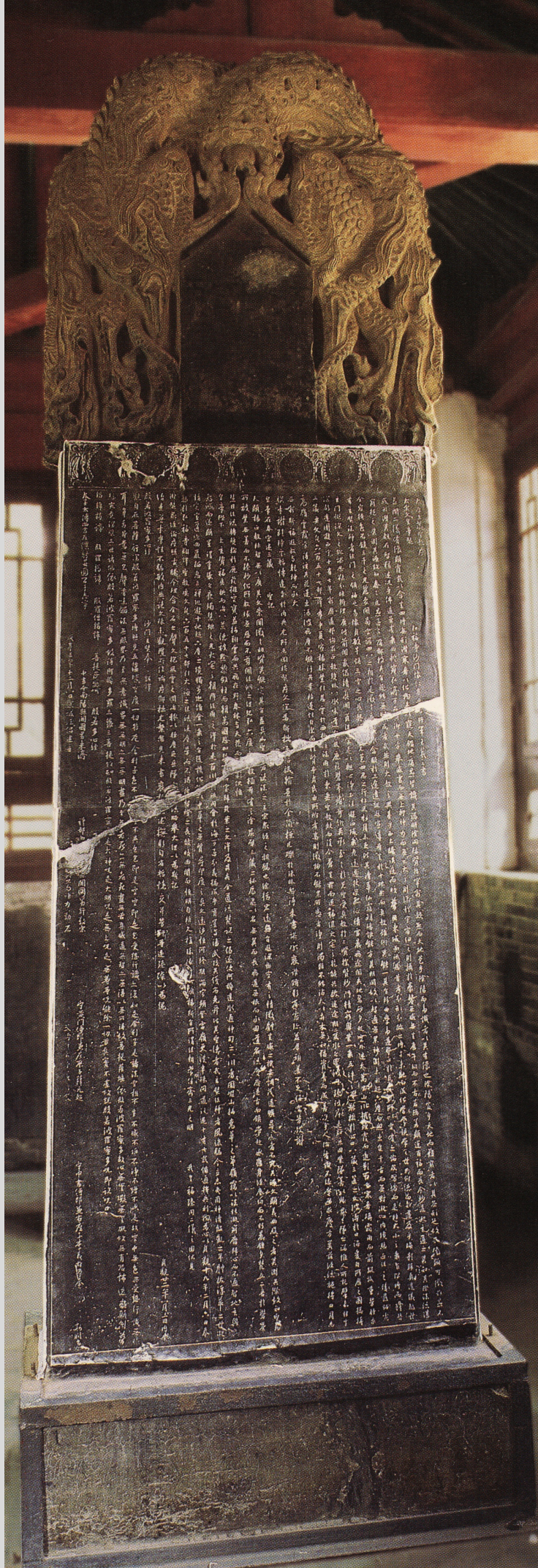
Maison de l'Asie
Grand Salon du 1^{er} étage
22 Avenue du Président
Wilson 75116 Paris



ÉCOLE FRANÇAISE
D'EXTRÊME-ORIENT

法國遠東學院

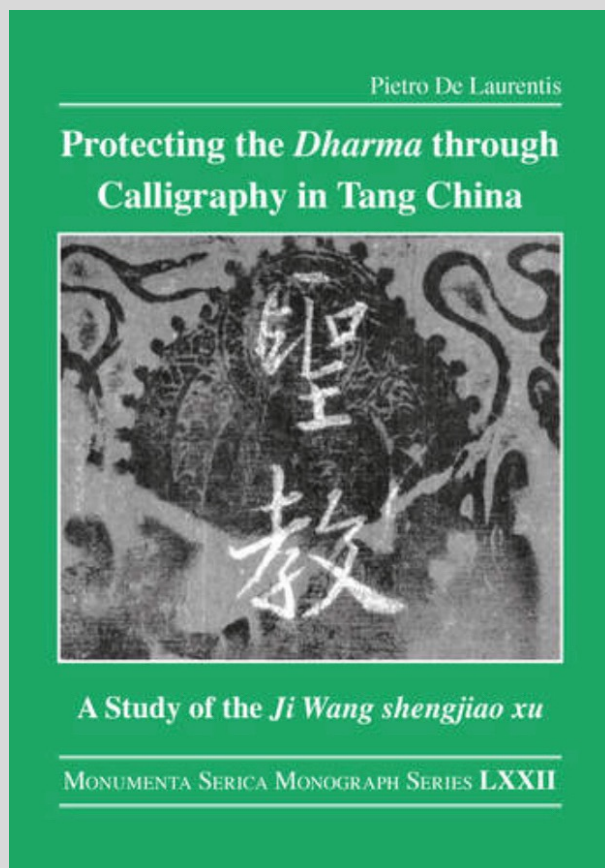
Contact : costantino.moretti@efeo.net



PIETRO DE LAURENTIS
**BUDDHIST CALLIGRAPHY
IN TANG CHINA**

The *Ji Wang shengjiao xu* 集王聖教序 (Preface to the Sacred Teaching Scriptures Translated by Xuanzang in Wang Xizhi's Collated Characters) is the earliest and finest collated inscription in the history of Chinese calligraphy. It was engraved on a stele, which was erected on January 1, 673 at the Hongfu 弘福 Monastery in the Tang capital Chang'an. Today it is in the museum of the Stele Forest in Xi'an (Xi'an Beilin). It records the two texts written by the Tang emperors Taizong (599-649) and Gaozong (628-683) in honour of the monk Xuanzang (d. 664) and the Buddhist scripture Xin jing (Heart Sutra), collated in the semi-cursive characters of the great master of Chinese calligraphy, Wang Xizhi (303-361). It is thus a Buddhist inscription that combines Buddhist authority, political power, and artistic charme in one single monument.

The present lecture will focus on the multifaceted context in which the stele was devised, aiming at highlighting the specific role calligraphy played in the propagation and protection of Buddhism in Tang China.



ÉCOLE FRANÇAISE D'EXTRÊME-ORIENT