

# Table of Contents

Introduction	7
<b>1 Shell Connections:</b>	
<b>The Exoticization and Eroticization of Asian Maritime Material Culture</b>	23
From Guangzhou to Florence: Parrot Cups as “Actors”	25
Layers of Exoticization: Chinese and European Shell Surfaces	33
Surfaces and Skins: The European Eroticization of Asian Shells	50
Conclusion – Shell Connections	58
<b>2 Shell Bodies:</b>	
<b>The Creative Agency of Molluscs across Cultures</b>	67
Clever Objects	69
Shell Agency	74
Clam Creations	82
Female Features	91
Bird Bodies	94
Cultured Connections	98
Conclusion	101
<b>3 Shell Worlds:</b>	
<b>Maritime Microcosms in EurAsian Art and Material Culture</b>	109
Shells in Flux	110
Coralscapes	128
Conclusion	139
<b>4 Woman with a Shell:</b>	
<b>Transcultural Exchange, Female Bodies and Maritime Matters</b>	147
Women on Shells	149
Women in Shells	156
Women with Shells	166
Women with EurAsian Shells	173
Conclusion – Woman with a Shell	178

<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>183</b>
<b>Cited Primary and Secondary Sources</b>	<b>193</b>
<b>Acknowledgments</b>	<b>213</b>
<b>Index</b>	<b>215</b>