

# THE SYDNEY PUNCHBOWL

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*One of the treasures of the State Library of New South Wales  
Now reproduced in a limited edition of 25*







*The mysterious initials on the side of the bowl have tantalised art historians for decades: who was the original bowl's first owner? Why was it made and why did it reappear in London in the 1920s? What is its relationship to the similar but not identical bowl (with a different view of Sydney) that surfaced some years ago in America and is now in the Australian National Maritime Museum?*

# THE SYDNEY PUNCHBOWL

*A replica of the precious Macquarie-era Chinese export-ware bowl in the State Library of New South Wales*

Hordern House, in conjunction with the State Library of New South Wales, announce the creation of a replica of the Sydney Punchbowl. Only 25 examples will ever be available for purchase. The Sydney Punchbowl will be officially launched at the Library in October 2013 by the Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO.

One of the most fascinating of all the unique treasures held in the State Library of New South Wales, the Sydney Punchbowl is a fine large porcelain bowl manufactured in China around 1820. The bowl is decorated with a panoramic scene of Sydney Cove around the outside and a group of Aboriginal figures on the inside, and finished with exquisite floral and gilded banding.

Five years in the planning and creation, the replica bowls have been made for Hordern House, Sydney, by Chinese craftsmen in the so-called “porcelain city” of Jingdezhen (Ching-te-Chen). Numerous prototype bowls have travelled between Sydney and Jingdezhen until the design, shape and hand-painted colours and gilding have become as true and accurate a representation of the unique and beautiful original as is possible.

The magnificent bowl stands 17 cm. tall with a diameter of 45 cm. Each of the individual bowls is a work of art, hand-made and painted by Chinese craftsmen using much the same methods as would have been used when the original was made about 200 years ago.

Accompanying each bowl will be a finely produced monograph in a special limited edition by Elizabeth Ellis OAM (former Mitchell Librarian and now an emeritus curator of the State Library of New South Wales). This scholarly publication adds important explanatory and contextual information about how the original bowl was made, and the trade that existed between Sydney and China.

Orders are being accepted now: download our order form.

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