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Artistic Tradition of Han Dynasty China



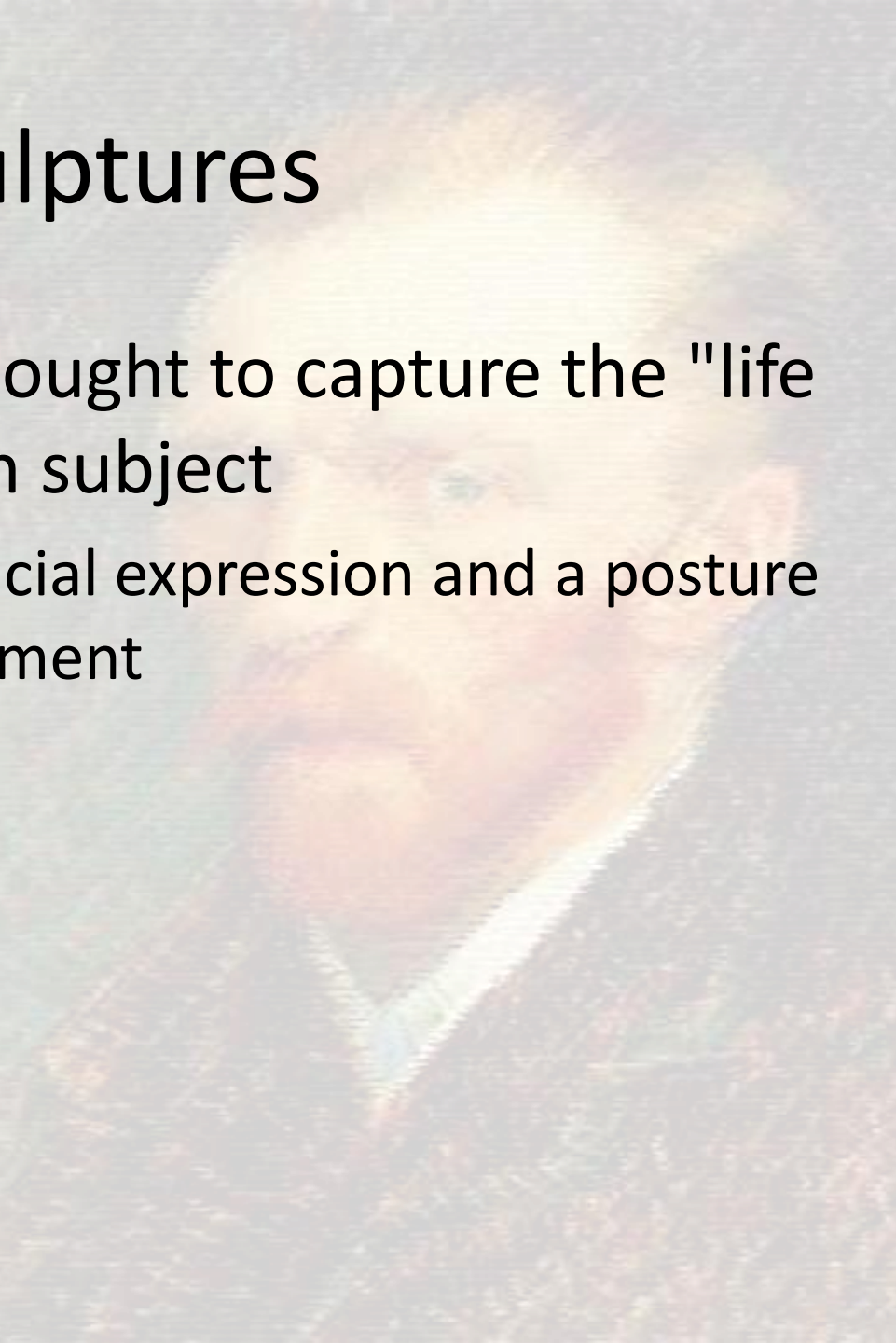
Coins

- Inscriptions with the value
- Different shapes
 - Spade, knife, circular
- Bronze or gold inlays
- Changes in coinage reflected changes in government
 - Valuation of metals



Sculptures

- Chinese sculptors sought to capture the "life spirit" of the human subject
 - Concentrating on facial expression and a posture that suggests movement



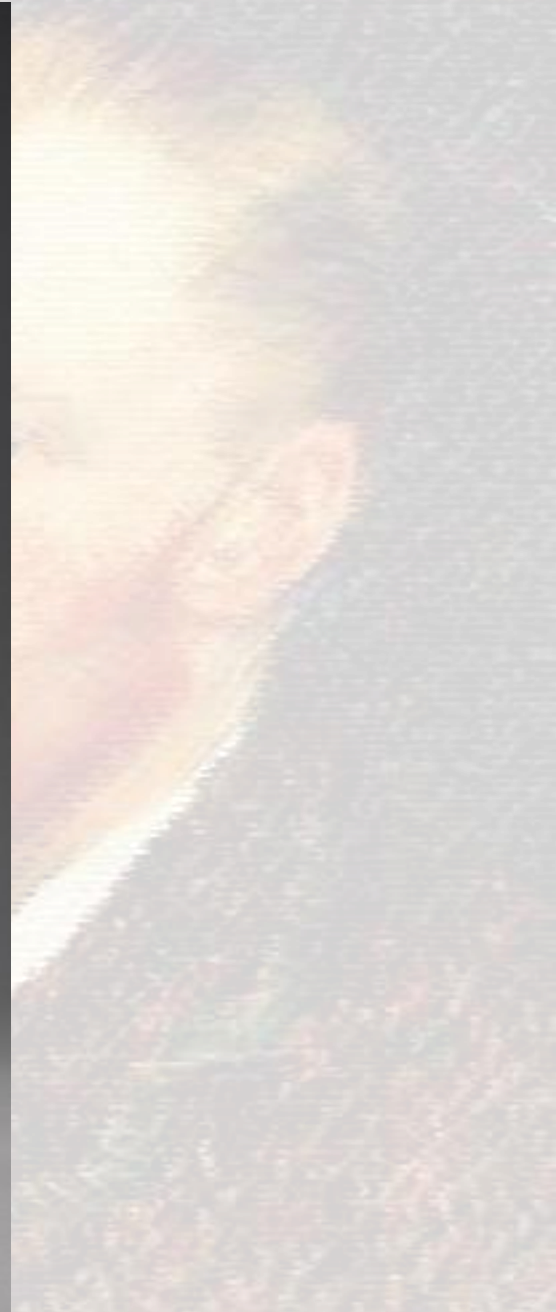
Case Study: Female Dancer

- Western Han dynasty, 2nd century B.C.E., Earthenware with slip and pigments



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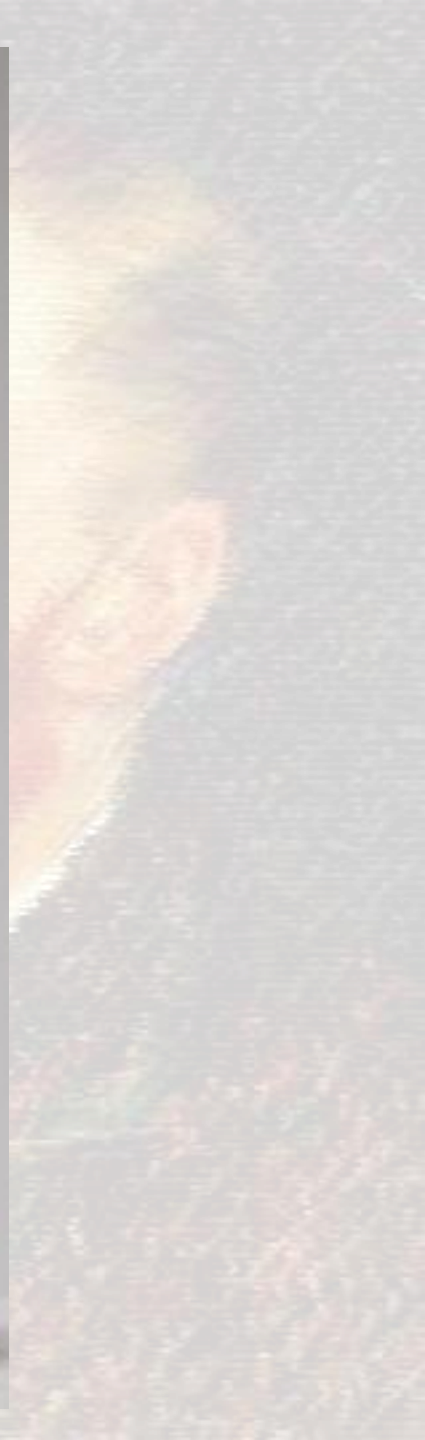


Case Study: Se player

- Han dynasty, 1st century B.C.–1st century C.E., Pottery



Art



Ceramics

- Brightly colored and highly stylized
 - Used natural and celestial themes
 - Including mythological animals
- Used for functional purposes primarily
 - Hu
 - Funerary containers



Case Study: Covered jar (hu)

- Western Han dynasty, 2nd–1st century B.C.E., Probably from Luoyang area, Earthenware with painted decoration



Funerary Statues and Artifacts

- Buried with the dead
 - To allow for decoration and entertainment for the person in the afterlife
 - Significance
 - Displayed common activities, architecture, fashion, etc...



Case Study: Liubo players



- Eastern Han dynasty
1st-2nd century CE
Earthenware,
green lead glaze

Central Watchtower

- Architectural model, Eastern Han dynasty, 1st–early 3rd century, Earthenware with green lead glaze



Liubo board and pieces, Han dynasty,
1st century B.C.E–1st century C.E.,
probably Luoyang, Henan Province



Case Study: Animal pen with Figures

- Eastern Han dynasty (25–220 C.E.), 1st–early 3rd century C.E.
Earthenware with green lead glaze



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Tomb panel with relief of figures in a pavilion, Eastern Han dynasty, early 2nd century Shandong Province, Limestone





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