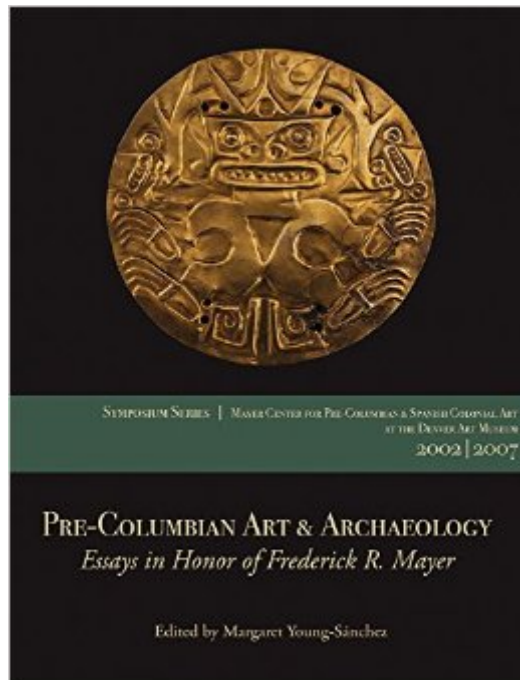


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Pre-Columbian Art & Archaeology: Essays In Honor Of Frederick R. Mayer (Symposium Series)



Synopsis

Symposia presented at the Denver Art Museum in 2002 and 2007 focused, respectively, on pre-Columbian art in the museum collection and the art and archaeology of ancient Costa Rica. Edited by Denver Art Museum curator Margaret Young-Sánchez, this lavishly illustrated volume brings together newly revised and expanded symposium papers from pre-Columbian scholars, while paying tribute to the legacy of Denver philanthropist Frederick R. Mayer—a generous supporter of archaeological and art historical research, scientific analysis, and scholarly publication. Archaeology's elder statesman Michael Coe (Yale University) provides a lively description of twentieth-century pre-Columbian archaeology and the personalities who shaped its intellectual history. Using traditional and scientific analyses of archaeological ceramics, Frederick W. Lange (LSA Associates, Inc.) and Ronald L. Bishop (Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History) consider the transmission of technical and cultural knowledge in ancient Costa Rica and Nicaragua. The late Michael J. Snarskis of the Tayutic Foundation reports on his final archaeological excavation, at Loma Corral in Guanacaste, Costa Rica, where an undisturbed two-thousand-year-old cemetery contained high-status burials, local and imported ceramics, and jade ornaments. Warwick Bray (University College, London), examines pre-Columbian gold items from Panama, including their uses and meaning, as part of the Parita Treasure—excavated in the early 1960s. Margaret Young-Sánchez (Denver Art Museum), presents the construction and iconography of early (ad 200–400) Tiwanaku-style folding pouches from the south-central Andes. And Carol Mackey (California State University, Northridge) and Joanne Pillsbury (Getty Research Institute) describe and analyze an important silver beaker decorated with detailed ritual and mythological scenes from the Lambayeque (Sicán) civilization of northern Peru (ad 800–1350).

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