

Over Easter I visited the British Museum in London. Taking the time as a clue, the walk-through approach as a layout combines glass display cases with solid wood booths, and the lighting focuses on the exhibits themselves, creating a solemn and quiet atmosphere. Material-wise, most of the display cases are made of anti-reflective glass with metal frames, enhancing the immersion of viewing the exhibition while protecting the artifacts.

Taking the China Pavilion as an example, representative artifacts from the Neolithic Age to the Qing Dynasty are displayed in the pavilion. In order to emphasize the delicacy and texture of the artifacts, soft backgrounds as well as dark woods are mostly used as a backdrop. Through precise lighting, the glaze luster of porcelain and the rusty patina of bronzes are shown to the fullest extent, giving viewers a concrete understanding of the heaviness of history.

I was impressed by a Tang Dynasty three-color horse. Behind that bright glaze color, it conveys the open and integrated cultural atmosphere of the Tang Dynasty. I was not only looking at the artifacts, but also resonating spiritually with the craftsmen, ideas and society of a thousand years ago. It aroused my thoughts on the inheritance of human civilization and triggered my reflection on cultural flow and belonging.

The visitors also include many foreign tourists who are interested in oriental culture. The China Pavilion not only serves as an exhibition space, but also as a meeting point of cultural identity, memory and power discourse. In this space, I, as a viewer, am reconstructing my own relationship with culture.

Visitors of all ages can be found in the exhibition halls – students taking careful notes, families visiting with their children, and tourists from all over the world. Museums, as public cultural spaces, speak to people on different levels. For me, this kind of “display” is not only a medium to convey knowledge, but also a platform to stimulate personal reflection and emotional resonance.

# King and Queen

The medieval European  
chess set  
in The British  
Museum

