THE FIRST EMPEROR OF CHINA
Critically-Acclaimed Interactive Project Now Available from Voyager!

In March of 1974, peasants digging a well near Xian, China's ancient capital, suddenly unearthed fragments of a life-sized terracotta statue of a warrior. Archaeologists rushed to the site and began excavations; excitement reached fever pitch as the pottery soldier was discovered to be one small part of the huge tomb complex of the First Emperor of China. Qin Shi Huang Di (221-206 BC) unified China, standardized written Chinese script, and completed the Great Wall. Over 7,000 magnificent life-size figures of warriors and horses, arranged in perfect military formation, stand guard over his ancient tomb. Differences in facial expression and features, hairstyles, clothing, and weaponry make each figure unique, a testament to the glory of Qin Shi Huang Di's empire.

The most spectacular archaeological find since the discovery of King Tut's tomb in 1922, the size and number of the figures, as well as the ongoing research at the excavation site, have made museum exhibition difficult. Only a few figures have been made available outside of China for viewing by the international public.

Since 1984, a team of researchers led by Dr. Ching-chih Chen of Simmons College has utilized cutting-edge modern technology to develop an interactive project on Qin Shi Huang Di. The First Emperor of China brings the treasures of Qin Shi Huang Di to video and computer screens. This project, now commercially available for the first time through The Voyager Company, offers a unique view of this archaeological find. The laserdisc provides a breathtaking variety of audio-visual information, including original film footage of the first days of the excavation, archival materials, a tour of the Qin Museum of Warriors and Horses, aerial motion views of the Great Wall, a still frame library of 5,000 slides, and bilingual Chinese/English commentary by the head of the excavation team and other scholars.

The videodisc may be used with its accompanying printed index, or in tandem with personal computer software. In addition to interactive search capabilities, the software provides much more detailed information on Qin Shi Huang Di, the tomb complex, and Chinese history and culture. The First Emperor of China will educate, entertain and excite anyone with an interest in China, history, art, archaeology, or anthropology.
The First Emperor of China is an outgrowth of the six-year PROJECT EMPEROR-I research and development undertaking. The enthusiastic worldwide reception given this project prompted Dr. Chen to work with The Voyager Company in developing a commercially available version for the general public.

The project was made possible by grants from the Humanities Project in Libraries of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Simmons College, and many hardware and software companies. Chinese museum authorities provided invaluable archival materials, film footage of the tomb complex, and access to the excavation site.

DR. CHING-CHIH CHEN is principal investigator and project director for PROJECT EMPEROR-I and The First Emperor of China. For Dr. Chen, the hypermedia milieu of laserdiscs and computer software represents the ideal way to bring the world of the First Emperor of China to a present-day audience. “It brings together the ancient and the modern, east and west, humanities and technology,” she explains.

Dr. Chen is Professor and Associate Dean of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College, Boston, where her expertise on new technology applications for information management has made her a sought-after international consultant. She has written or edited 22 books on information technology and management, and is founding editor-in-chief of Microcomputers for Information Management. Dr. Chen has been the recipient of many prestigious teaching and research awards, including the 1990 LITA/Gaylord Award for achievement in library and information technology. She is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

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Available Fall 1991
Videodisc: $99.95
Companion Software for Macintosh or IBM PC (please specify): $69.95

NOTE: The original four-sided PROJECT EMPEROR-I videodisc set is available for $349 directly through PROJECT EMPEROR-I, GSLIS, Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston, MA 02115, USA

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