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Robert McChesney

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- 1 The author suggests alternate ways to “read” single-sheet paintings and other complex artistic representations involving text and image. She begins with a Safavid wine bowl dated to 1620-21, the shape of which as well as its textual inscriptions, decoration, and figural representations she sees as combining to produce a complex of meanings. This in contrast to earlier metalware on which text often refers only to the function of the object. What provokes this study, however, is an album page, a collage of two images ascribed to *Riḍā 'Abbāsī* and a line of text which the author sees as promoting a “linguistic response” from its audience. That is, its elements, perhaps removed from their original context, serve to engender “sounds” in the ear of the observer, speaking to a complex of cultural values and memories not so evident to those outside that context.

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Thèmes : 5.1. Monde iranophone

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