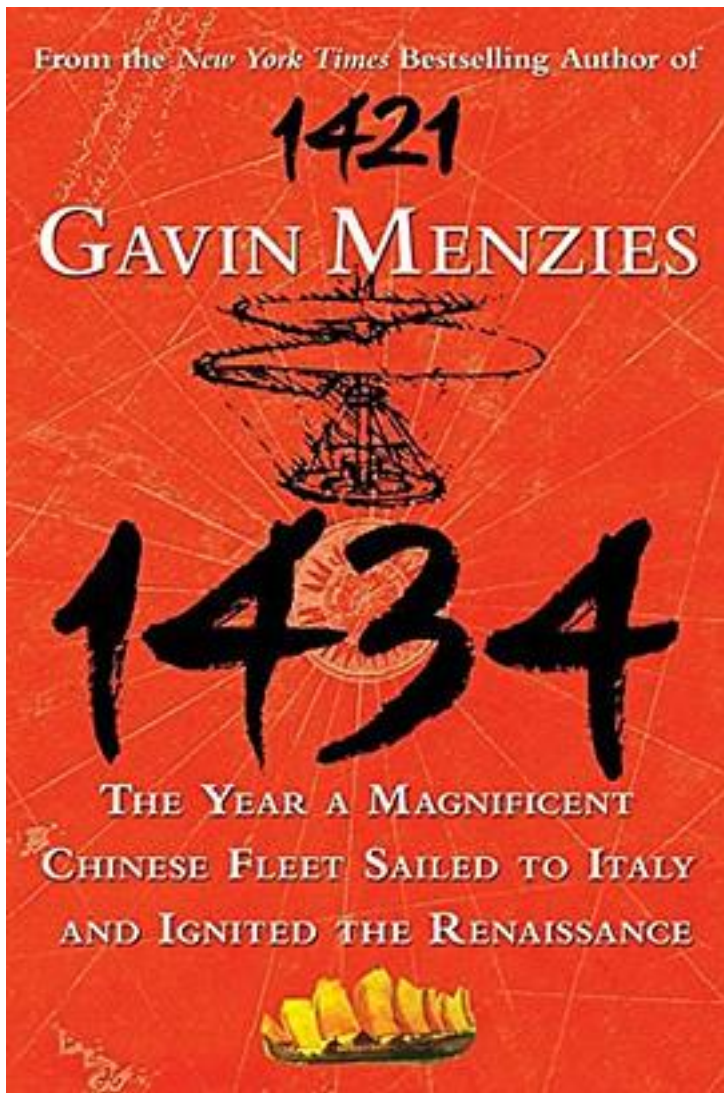


1434



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著者:Gavin Menzies

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In his bestselling book 1421: The Year China Discovered the World, Gavin Menzies revealed that it was the Chinese that discovered America, not Columbus. Now he presents further astonishing evidence that it was also Chinese advances in science, art, and technology that formed the basis of the European Renaissance and our modern world. In his bestselling book 1421: The Year China Discovered the World, Gavin Menzies presented controversial and compelling evidence that Chinese fleets beat Columbus, Cook and Magellan to the New World. But his research has led him to astonishing new discoveries that Chinese influence on Western culture didn't stop there. Until now, scholars have considered that the Italian Renaissance - the basis of our modern Western world - came about as a result of re-examining the ideas of classical Greece and Rome. A stunning reappraisal of history is about to be published. Gavin Menzies makes the startling argument that a sophisticated Chinese delegation visited Italy in 1434, sparked the Renaissance, and forever changed the course of Western civilization. After that date the authority of Aristotle and Ptolemy was overturned and artistic conventions challenged, as was Arabic astronomy and cartography. Florence and Venice of the 15th century attracted traders from across the world. Menzies presents astonishing evidence that a large Chinese fleet, official ambassadors of the Emperor, arrived in Tuscany in 1434 where they met with Pope Eugenius IV in Florence. A mass of information was given by the Chinese delegation to the Pope and his entourage - concerning world maps (which Menzies argues were later given to Columbus), astronomy, mathematics, art, printing, architecture, steel manufacture, civil engineering, military machines, surveying, cartography, genetics, and more. It was this gift of knowledge that sparked the inventiveness of the Renaissance - Da Vinci's inventions, the Copernican revolution, Galileo, etc. Following 1434, Europeans embraced Chinese intellectual ideas, discoveries, and inventions, which formed the basis of European civilization just as much as Greek thought and Roman law. In short, China provided the spark that set the Renaissance ablaze.

作者介绍:

英国皇家海军退伍军官。1937年生于伦敦，几个月后被父母带到中国。第二次世界大战爆发后，回到英国。1953年加入英国皇家海军；1957年在“钻石”号驱逐舰上服役于地中海海域；1959年，在“纽芬兰”号上担任航海指挥官，服役于远东海域；1960年，调到“决心”号战略导弹核潜艇，任作战官；1968年，担任“鳐鲸”号潜艇艇长，被授予海军中校军衔，执行全球航行访问任务。在皇家海军的服役期间，他曾率舰沿着伟大的航海家哥伦布、迪亚斯、卡布拉尔和达·伽马的航线行遍世界。退伍之后，他曾多次走访中国与亚洲各国，专注于研究郑和率领的中国舰队先于欧洲航海家发现新大陆的传奇旅程。

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书评

“开封有个包青天，铁面无私辩忠奸。” “王朝马汉你们唱完没有，快押嫌犯上堂！”  
“是，大人。” 只听得“咣”一下惊堂木声，跟着一声断喝“堂下何人，报上名来！看你形状猥琐，所犯何事，一一道来，不得隐瞒！”  
只见一美髯公施施然抬起头，头上带着个奇奇怪怪的帽子，一脸疑...

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这本书的简介给我的第一印象是：皇帝不急太监急，在中国人还对郑和是否抵达过新大陆报以一个巨大的问号时，英国的加文·孟席斯已经率先收集了大量证据，并且出版了此书，当然，我们也可以理解为超越国界的伟大情怀。  
《1434：一支庞大的中国舰队抵达意大利并点燃文艺复兴之火...

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