Finch & Co



CHINESE CALLIGRAPHIC LARGE CONVEX SCHOLAR'S WRIST REST

A FINE CHINESE CALLIGRAPHIC LARGE CONVEX SCHOLAR'S WRIST REST THE BAMBOO CARVED WITH A POEM AFTER WANG WENZHI (1730-1802) COMPARING THE ARTIST'S WORK WITH WAN XIZHI (303-361) SEALED 'MENGLOU' THE REVERSE SURFACE ENGRAVED WITH DELICATE BAMBOO SHOOTS AND A POEM SEALED 'SHANFU'
QING DYNASTY 19TH CENTURY
SIZE: 34.5CM LONG, 8.5CM WIDE - 13½ INS LONG, 3¼ INS WIDE / 37.5CM HIGH - 14¾ INS HIGH (WITH BASE)

LITERATURE

THE BAMBOO WRIST REST IN FUNCTION, MATERIAL AND DECORATION, REFLECTS THE WORK AND IDEALS OF THE CHINESE SCHOLAR. BAMBOO CARVERS, WHETHER AMATEUR OR PROFESSIONAL, WERE ALSO SKILLED IN PAINTING, POETRY, CALLIGRAPHY AND EVEN SEAL CARVING. THE SILKY LACQUERED UPPER SURFACE OF THE WRIST REST IS CARVED WITH AN INSCRIPTION COPYING AN 18TH CENTURY POEM, AND THIS PRACTICE OF COLLECTING AND COPYING CLASSICAL POETRY WAS COMMON AMONG SCHOLARS AND WAS A PRODUCT OF BOTH SCHOLARLY AND AESTHETIC INTERESTS. THE REUSE OF THESE POEMS IN CONTEMPORARY WORKS OF ART WAS REGARDED AS A HOMAGE TO CHINESE LITERATURE AS WELL AS A MEANS OF EXPRESSING THE CALLIGRAPHERS OWN INTEREST IN POETRY AND ART.