Finch & Co



PAIR OF CHINESE BAMBOO VERTICAL FLUTES 'XIAO' EACH INSCRIBED IN THEIR ORIGINAL BOX INSCRIBED 'MADE BY ZHANG LUNSHAN OF YUPING GUIZHOU'

CIRCA Circa 1912 - 1920

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A SCHOLAR'S OBJECT

EARLY REPUBLIC / CIRCA 1912 - 1920

SIZE: 62CM LONG - 24½ INS LONG (EACH)

CASE: 4CM X 4.5CM X 65CM LONG - 1½ INS X 1¾ INS X 25½ INS LONG

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LITERATURE

THE CHINESE PROVINCE OF GUIZHOU IS FAMOUS FOR ITS EXCELLENT BAMBOO FLUTES WHICH ARE A SYMBOL OF THE CHINESE SCHOLAR. ITS SOUND WAS SACRED AND WAS TRADITIONALLY SAID TO BE CARRIED BY ONE OF THE EIGHT IMMORTALS CALLED HAN XIANGZI. EACH FLUTE IS INSCRIBED WITH A POEM EXTOLLING THE INSPIRING SOUND THAT IT PRODUCES AND OF THE BEAUTY OF THE 'JADE LADY' WHO PLAYS IT:

'UNDER THE BRIGHT MOONLIGHT

TO WHICH FAMILY DOES THIS JADE LADY BELONG ?

PLAYING A SONG UNDER A QUARTER MOON

THE LOFTY THOUGHTS OF A SCHOLAR MAY MATCH THOSE OF SIMA QIAN

THE ANCIENT FLYING TUNES OF A THOUSAND YEARS PAST

COME ALIVE IN THIS ZHAOJI STUDIO'

SIMA QIAN WAS AN ANCIENT HISTORIAN OF THE EARLY HAN DYNASTY (DIED 86 BC) AND REGARDED AS A PARAGON OF SCHOLARLY VIRTUES.

PROVENANCE

EX PRIVATE HONG KONG COLLECTION

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