

SA1201420

The Master's Hand: A Fine Early Chinese 1912 circa 'Li Tieguai' Scholar's Miniature Vase

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1201420****Date of manufacture: 1910**

Dimensions

Height = 11.3 cm (4.4")

Description

The Master's Hand: A Fine Early Chinese 1912 circa 'Li Tieguai' Scholar's Miniature Vase. An exceptional and rare early 20th-century porcelain miniature vase of elegant baluster form, standing at just 11.3 cm. This "cabinet piece" represents the height of the Republic Period (c. 1912–1940) literati style, where porcelain was treated as a canvas for fine art. The body is decorated with a masterfully executed depiction of Li Tieguai, the Iron-Crutch Immortal. The artist has used sophisticated fengcai (powdered) enamels and meticulous stipple-work to capture the character's eccentric, wind-swept spirit. He is shown seated upon a large double-gourd, accompanied by five vibrant iron-red bats (Wu Fu), symbolizing a life blessed with five-fold fortune. The reverse features a poetic couplet in fluid, rhythmic Running Script calligraphy: "His beard is a wild, tangled mess, yet a golden headband rests upon his brow. With a grime-streaked face and dishevelled hair, he leans upon his iron crutch." The poem is punctuated by three translucent rose-pink seals—Jun (Gentleman) and Hua (Painting)—marking this as a scholar's commissioned work. The base is finished with a crisp, prof...

Seller Details

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