

SA1206840

An Important Large 'Phoenix & Peony' Blue and White Brush Washer (Bi-xi)

Price

GBP 2,450

| USD \$3,309 | EUR 2,866

Item Reference: SA1206840**Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Description

An Important Large 'Phoenix & Peony' Blue and White Brush Washer (Bi-xi) Late Qing Dynasty, Guangxu Period (c. 1875–1908) Provenance: The G.S. May Private Collection, London This exceptionally large and robustly potted brush washer represents the pinnacle of the Late Qing "Scholar's Taste." Measuring 22.5 cm at its widest diameter and weighing a substantial 1.1 kilograms, the piece possesses a gravity and presence intended for the refined studio of a literati official. The compressed globular form features an elegantly inverted rim, designed to prevent water from splashing during the rinsing of calligraphy brushes. The exterior is masterfully painted in vibrant tones of cobalt blue with a continuous frieze of two Imperial Phoenixes (Fenghuang) soaring amidst a dense ground of flowering peonies and scrolling foliage. The painting quality is superb, exhibiting the "watercolour" wash technique where the cobalt varies in tone to create depth and movement in the plumage. Unusually, the interior is also richly decorated, featuring a central medallion of a stylized floral star surrounded by scrolling vines, allowing the owner to admire the artwork even while the vessel was ...

Seller Details

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