

SA882937

Pair Of Large Chinese Temple Jars, Qing Dynasty

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA882937****Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 66 cm (26.0")

Width = 36 cm (14.2")

Depth = 36 cm (14.2")

Description

A spectacular pair of fine quality Chinese vases, Qing Dynasty, reign of Emperor Tao Kuang (1821-1850) in perfect condition. They are hand-painted and decorated with children in play. This style of porcelain painting "Karako" meaning Chinese child or children was produced for three levels of social status. The three children design was made for the common people, the five children design was made for people of a higher status (lords and other high ranking people) and the seven children design was made for the imperial family. The wish for children is a very common motif in paintings, embroidery and porcelain. However, it must be admitted that traditionally the wish is for boys not girls. This apparent misogynistic attitude has to be explained. In the traditional village context a daughter would soon enough leave to marry someone in another village and would then have very little contact with her birth family (often only at New Year). On the other hand a boy would remain in the family home and have a strong Confucian duty to look after his parents into their old age. Scholarly or mercantile activity was restricted to men and so a family's dream of riches and continuity co...

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