



SHARON FITZSIMMONS
CHINESE ANTIQUE FURNITURE



Sale Price £6,750 (was £7,500) - Large Painted Cabinet with Idyllic Scenes

SHANXI PROVINCE, C19TH

DIMENSIONS: W:121 D:55 H:189 (cm)
REFERENCE: C334

£6,750

A remarkable cabinet with painted scenes of an idyllic, cultured rural lifestyle, replete with symbolism that accentuates and emphasises learning. This piece is an historic visual aesthetic for prominent placement in interiors.

The painted books and scrolls, together with scenes of figures enjoying the privileges of life in a grand courtyard home enjoying the wonders of nature, are symbolic of Confucian ideals of peacefulness and harmony, and emphasise the cultural imperative of learning and wisdom.

While the intellectual literati elite strived for the ideal in learning, it was aspired to by the wealthy merchant families of Shanxi.

The intriguing paintings utilise the front surface of the cabinet as a canvas and is designed to convey the aspirations of the privileged class. And in construction, the cabinet itself is square edged and impressive with its muscularity and size.

The original black lacquer and painting has acquired the natural signs of aging and over time some repairs have been made to the lacquer and painting.

Structurally there is no central stile between the doors, allowing for ease of storage for all types of items.

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