



SHARON FITZSIMMONS
CHINESE ANTIQUE FURNITURE



Sale Price £995 (was £1,995) - Large Red Lacquered Cabinet with Gilt Painting

SHANXI PROVINCE, C19TH

DIMENSIONS: W:124 D:66 H:181 (cm)

REFERENCE: C164

£995

This classic square edged red lacquered cabinet with warm patina of faded gilt decorative painting reveals an idyllic landscape of courtyard home living. Originally this piece had prominent presence in the home.

The faded scenes represent harmony within the family itself, and between the family and the natural world. To both followers of Buddhism and Confucianism this represents a pinnacle in order, and peaceful living.

The doors are framed by a detailed floral border pattern, featuring a butterfly at the top. The butterfly is symbolic in China of joy and marital happiness, while the floral motif represents fertility and prosperity. There are three roundels at the bottom, which would originally have framed decorative gilt paintings. The black lacquer undercoat is revealed in parts.

The metal locking plate, which has been replaced at some stage, is shaped to reflect the lines of both butterfly and floral motifs, with soft curves and symmetry that gives a visual centre to the piece, while enhancing the delicate painting on the doors. The design has no central stile, indicating that the cabinet was used to store the larger items that could be laid flat directly on the shelf.

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