



**SHARON FITZSIMMONS**  
CHINESE ANTIQUE FURNITURE



## **Sale Price £900 (was £1,500) Large Side Table with Double Ruyi Carving**

SHANXI PROVINCE, C19TH

**DIMENSIONS:** W:224.5 D:35.5 H:89.5 (cm)

**REFERENCE:** T351

£900

This long formal elm side table is defined by its single plank and large dramatic fortuitous carvings, which convey a distinguishing presence in contemporary interiors.

Carvings include double ruyi motifs in the inset panel between the legs and the beaded, slightly scalloped fortuitous cloud motif carved spandrels. The unusually broad front leg mouldings complement the beading along the apron.

Strong foot bases are dramatically offset by these two large fortuitous wish fulfilling ruyi sceptre heads on the panels joining the legs.

The ruyi design is reminiscent of the long life linzhi fungus symbol. Double ruyi are unusual, a single ruyi being the standard classical design. Traces of original lacquer are evident.

This style of table is also known as an "altar table," being used within the home for ancestor worship. This name is misleading, as can also be used for non-religious purposes. The upturned or everted end design traces its origin to the Zhou Dynasty (1046-256 BC) in which tables with upturned ends were used for ritual offering ceremonies.

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