

Basic Detail Report



Landscape with Waterfowl

Date

late 16th century

Primary Maker

Kano Shoei

Medium

ink on paper

Description

This monochrome sumi-e landscape painting is typical of the Momoyama Kano artists, as evidenced by the grouping of birds and the arrangement of the elements within the painting. Scholars have suggested this piece very likely functioned as a wall or door painting to decorate a residential or temple complex. The cold of winter is captured in the use of the brushwork to shape and contour the snowy rock formations, but an early blossoming of a plum tree intruding into the composition at radical angles in the upper left and right quadrants is a sign of approaching spring. The identity of the artist remains unknown, although the work does have some stylistic characteristics of the early Kano artist, Kano Shoei. The Motonobu seal, in the form of a Chinese tripod (ding), is a later addition.

Dimensions

Sight: 46 3/4 x 72 7/8 in. (118.7 x 185.1 cm) Framed: 53 x 78 7/8 x 1 1/2 in. (134.6 x 200.3 x 3.8 cm)