



## A Picture of a Boat in Mist and Rain

### Date

Autumn 1702

### Primary Maker

Shen Jian

### Medium

ink and colors on silk

### Description

While there is no biographical information currently available on this artist, it would appear that he was influenced by earlier artists, such as Qiu Ying (1494/1495-1552), a major painter of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). The colophon in the upper left corner identifies the title of the work. It also indicates that the painting was executed by Shen Jian, a native of Tingjian, at his studio called the The Study for Fragrant Speech. Originally commissioned by Xuan Liushi, there are a number of owners and collectors seals on the painting. In keeping with Chinese techniques the painting is divided into three horizontal planes. In the foreground, there is a boat with a scholar and his servant moored beneath a willow tree. The river, islands, and a promontory dominate the mid-ground. There are a series of mountains draped in mist in the background. The entire composition is intended to portray the grandeur of nature against the relative insignificance

of man.

### Dimensions

Sight: 39 x 18 3/4 in. (99.1 x 47.6 cm) Overall: 95 5/8 x 21 3/8 in. (242.9 x 54.3 cm)