

Basic Detail Report



An Arhat in the Forest

Date

18th century

Primary Maker

Artist Unknown

Medium

ink on paper

Description

This painting is executed in a horizontal handscroll format. It appears to have been inspired by a painting, attributed to Fan-long, who was active in the 12th century during the Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279). Arhat, or Lohan, were Buddhist sages, who retreated from involvement in earthly matters and focused their entire being on the attainment of nirvana or true enlightenment. This particular painting is very delicately handled. The shading is used to suggest the gnarled branches and bark of centuries old trees. The rocks, also timeless, are built in successive layers by the artist to suggest perspective and depth. In the center of the painting, a solitary Lohan leans against a tree - his only companions are the deer seated and standing around him.

Dimensions

Sight: 11 1/2 x 54 1/8 in. (29.2 x 137.5 cm) Framed: 14 5/8 x 57 5/8 x 3/4 in. (37.1 x 146.4 x 1.9 cm)