PAGODA RED









BLUE AND WHITE FU LION HEADREST

\$228

c. 1900 • China • Porcelain • Collection #CESB029F W: 4.75" D: 2.5" H: 5.25"

This small ceramic block is actually a form of Chinese headrest or neck pillow. Popular during the Qing dynasty, rigid headrests such as this were used by upper-class women to protect their elaborate hairstyles by elevating the head during slumber. This example dates to the early 20th century and is glazed in the blue-and-white style with deep, cobalt-blue color.

The headrest is decorated on all sides with mythical fu lion dogs playing with a brocade ball, a motif that evokes the idiom "may you and your descendant achieve high rank." A powerful and benevolent guardian, the fu lion (shizi) is the perfect force to protect against nightmares and bad energy. Continued...

 Π

PAGODA RED

BLUE AND WHITE FU LION HEADREST

A geometric meander trims the edges and small bats frame coin-shaped ventilation cutouts, symbolizing wealth and happiness.

Two minor chips along edge.