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# PAGODA RED

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## AGATE LONGEVITY SNUFF BOTTLE

**\$880**

c. 1900 • China • Agate • Collection #CHIW007

W: 1.5" D: 1.0" H: 2.5"

A mixture of finely powdered tobacco, herbs, and spices, snuff was introduced to China in the 17th century by Western diplomats. Initially reserved for ranking members of Qing-dynasty society, the practice provided an opportunity to display one's refined aesthetic through collectible snuff bottles. This late 19th-century snuff bottle is made of a brown-grey agate, smoothed to a rounded rectangular form. Ivory-toned inclusions on one side of the bottle have been carved in low relief of a young boy and a pheasant beneath a knotted pine tree. Continued...



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Regarded as an emblem of longevity, the pine tree is a common motif in Chinese art and is used metaphorically for friends who remain constant in adversity. The beautifully worked stone bottle is finished with a red stone stopper and fitted with an intact bone snuff spoon.



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