
PAGODA RED



SHAN SHUI RELIEF SNUFF BOTTLE

\$128

1940s • China • Resin • Collection #CESB053

W: 1.5" D: 0.75" 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 elaborate snuff bottle is hand-carved of opaque resin with a rectangular body atop a subtle lotus base. Each side of the bottle is carved in relief with floral scrollwork or a "shan shui" mountain landscape. The quiet scenes are wonderfully detailed, featuring delicate foliage, traditional architecture, and crashing waves made up of geometric linework.

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Green pigment applied to the negative spaces adds dimension to the details.

Original stopper has been lost.



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