



FRAMED EROTIC ALBUM LEAF

\$1,188

c. 1850 • Northern China, China • Paper, Ink, Pigment • Collection #PR0141E

W: 11.75" D: 1.0" H: 14.75"

Despite its explicit content, this intimate scene conveys a sense of tenderness and romantic love characteristic of Chinese erotic art. Known as “spring palace paintings,” these ink and watercolor illustrations imagined the sensual delights of courtly life. Taken from an album of erotic paintings, this framed leaf departs from a tradition of depicting lovers in risqué outdoor settings by picturing an amorous coupling in a distinctly Qing-dynasty interior. The uniquely detailed surroundings shed light on the prevailing aesthetic tastes in decor and furniture of 19th-century China. Continued...



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Note the carved wooden headrest, blue and white censer, and opulent low bed, carved with a trellis back and ruyi-formed legs.



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