
PAGODA RED



GNARLED TRUNK MORTAR

\$3,680

c. 1850 • Yunnan, China • Wood • Collection #TLC042

W: 21.0" D: 21.0" H: 24.5"

This large wooden mortar dates to the mid-19th century and was originally used for crushing rice, grain, spices and other foodstuffs. Carved from a single tree trunk, the mortar has a well-worn interior bowl and a beautifully aged exterior that has preserved the natural texture of the wood grain. Like the traditional scholars' brush pot carved from root wood, the mortar is appreciated for its organic form and irregular grain pattern, evoking the beauty and complexity of the natural world. Continued...



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Smooth to the touch, the gnarled tree trunk has an incredible patina that reflects a century of regular use.



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