

## CARVED LIMESTONE MONKEY

## \$1,880

c. 1850 • Shanxi, China • Limestone • Collection #Z137 W: 8.0" D: 10.5" H: 17.0"

This wonderfully expressive limestone sculpture was carved in reference to the Ming-dynasty novel "Journey to the West." The carving depicts Sun Wukong, the Monkey King who eats from the heavenly peach garden to obtain immortality. Despite his divine status, the Monkey King is depicted with charming naturalism, wide-eyed and cradling the prized fruit in its hands. Created in the mid-19th century, this carving likely topped a hitching post as a protective talisman for horses. We love the idea of nestling this sculpture in a shady corner of a garden, guarding the home with a watchful eye.