
PAGODA RED



ANCESTRAL PAINTING

\$5,280

c. 1850 • Shanxi, China • Paper, Paint, Pigment • Collection #CAG025

W: 66.5" D: 0.75" H: 89.5"

This richly colored and exquisitely detailed composition painted around 1850 during the Qing dynasty points to the central role ancestor worship played in Chinese culture. The painting depicts several generations, dressed in intricately detailed and brilliantly colored robes, seated directly facing the viewer. The oldest ancestors are largest in scale at the rear with the youngest, smaller-scaled relatives in the front row. Although their formal postures are similar, each figure's features are distinct, representing unique individuals. Continued...



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Suggesting the continuum of life and the common practice of ancestral rituals practiced in the home, the group is pictured in an interior room before an altar table, set with ceremonial offerings and an altar tablet bearing the names of remote ancestors.



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