
PAGODA RED



BOTANICAL DUAN INKSTONE

\$480

c. 1900 • Shanxi, China • Stone • Collection #ZHA027

W: 5.0" D: 3.25" H: 0.5"

A fixture of the Chinese scholars' studio, the inkstone was among the "Four Treasures of the Study" and was used in calligraphy and landscape painting along with paper, ink and brush. Carved from a dense volcanic rock known as duan stone (duānxī 端溪), inkstones provided a surface for grinding dry ink into a fine powder, which was then mixed with water to the scholars' desired shade of black. This late 19th century inkstone has a simple, rectangular form, carved with a shallow surface for ink, a small reservoir for water and decorative etchings of leaves and other botanicals. Continued...



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Minor chips to edge.



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