## PAGODA RED









### "LONGEVITY AND GOOD FORTUNE" HAT RACK

#### \$880

c. 1900 • Northern China, China • Paint, Northern Elmwood, Glass • Collection #NN030 W: 22.75" D: 1.0" H: 13.5"

De rigeur for any respectable, status-seeking male in the Qing-dynasty, hats would have found elevated storage and display on this remarkably crafted hat stand. Flanking the central mirror and carved panel, bearing the character for longevity, two images of young boys frolic in nature-themed settings, each painted in reverse on glass. This exacting process required the artist to approach the compositions backwards, first painting in details and lines before adding in more broadly painted areas of color. Continued...

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Drawing on the popularity of images of children, the artist illustrated one boy on a lily pad and another lounging with a rabbit under plum blossoms, potent symbols of prosperity, perseverance, and a long life. Evocative of another era, the stand elevates a foyer or entryway, featuring gracefully curved hooks that fold out to accommodate hat, bags, or jackets.