

Plate

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The plate is incomplete; a small fragment of marli is missing; the gap has been filled with plaster. The plate is circular with a plain rim. The marli slopes slightly inwards, the wall is low and the base is flat. The plate rests on a small milled foot, located in line with the outer wall, which is slightly curved and free of glaze. The plate has several small cracks in the marli,

which have been repaired with glue ; The decoration almost completely covers the inside of the plate and the underside of the marli. It is hand-drawn in blue and painted in underglaze blue and overglaze red with gold highlights. It is of the Imari landscape type. The decoration occupies the marli, the wall and the bottom of the plate. It is scenic and floral. The marli is framed by a blue-painted line close to the rim; it is composed of two sets repeated in alternation. One set consists of two blue-painted mountains with gold highlights, flanking an elongated, pinched medallion in the center, surrounded by a double blue-painted line. This medallion straddles the border and the wall; painted orange-red, its interior is adorned with a flower in reserve, traced in red and painted gold. From this flower emerge two pairs of curved branches, also in reserve and painted gold, which are bordered at each end by a leaf traced in red and filled with V-shaped lines, traced in the same way. One half of this medallion is set in reserve in a truncated cone-shaped mass traced and painted in blue, and adorned with leafy, flowering branches traced in gold. The mountains and the right-hand top of the truncated cone mass described above are covered with stylized trees, painted red. They are surmounted by two levels of clouds, the upper level bordering the edge of the plate. The clouds are drawn in red; some are painted pale red, with gold highlights. The foot of the mountains, on the wall of the plate, appears to be lined with rocks drawn and painted in red; they seem to emerge from a lake whose waves are evoked by groups of horizontal lines, drawn and painted in red; some are surmounted by lake plants symbolized by vertical dashes, while others are lined with flowers drawn in red and painted in either red or gold. The central motif features a circular medallion with a double line drawn in blue. The outer perimeter of the medallion features a scenic motif repeated three times. These are surmounted by a temple, traced in blue and painted in blue and red with gold highlights, and a pavilion traced and painted in succession. To the right of the temple rises a leafy tree, traced in blue and painted red, which

extends to the marli, and is adorned with flowers traced in red and painted in either red or gold. The center of the medallion is occupied by a flower traced and partially painted in red; it is surrounded by leafy plant stems arranged in a triangle: three are traced in red, and four are traced and painted in blue with gold highlights. The rim of the plate has a dark brown coating. The back of the border is decorated with a pair of flowering branches; on the opposite side, the branches are outlined in blue, while the flowers are outlined and painted in red.

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Date 1750 c

Materials ceramics, fine hard-paste porcelain from China

Measurements 3 x 22,1114 cm

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Photo by René Bouchard

On display