

Plate

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The plate is complete; some cracks and breaks have been repaired with glue. The plate is circular with a plain rim. The rim slopes slightly inwards, the wall is low and the base is flat. The plate rests on a small ring-shaped foot that is free of glaze ; The decoration is hand-painted in blue on the front and back of the object. The painted decoration is animal and floral, in

the Chinese Kraak style. The inner surface of the object is entirely decorated. The rim and wall are decorated with compartments, divided into two alternating types. The compartments are trapezoidal with angular corners and of the same format; the outer perimeter of one series is made of a single fillet, which surrounds a double fillet whose center is painted blue, while the others are made of a single fillet. Their decoration alternates: the first alternates between a tall leafy stem topped by a flower, similar to a sunflower, and an element that appears to be a cloth bag mounted on a tripod – the latter resembling from afar the umbrella, one of the eight emblems of Buddhism. The other panels are divided into three superimposed sections; the upper and lower sections are either decorated with rows of fish scales, or a square painted dark blue with a swastika in reserve. The central section is always decorated with one of the eight precious objects of Confucian philosophy, painted in dark blue. The central decoration is encircled by a ring, within which are two concentric octagons with concave sides, the one on the outside being in reserve and the other solid. The space outside the octagons is decorated alternately with the same elements as some of the panels on the wall, either rows of fish scales or an area painted dark blue with a swastika in reserve. The main decoration consists of a plant scene with an insect. It consists of a pointed rock painted in faded blue, behind which emerge two leafy, flowering plants, including a sunflower similar to the one adorning the marli. A grasshopper painted in profile rests on the sunflower's blossoms. The sky is covered with stylized clouds painted in blue. On the reverse, the plate is adorned with a fillet painted from the edge and its wall is trimmed with the same length of wavy leafy stem repeated four times. The center of the base features a ring surrounding a square made of various groups of parallel fillets intersecting at right angles, as well as a cross.

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Date 1700

Materials ceramics, fine hard-paste porcelain from China

Measurements 3,1 x 21,0115 cm

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Photo by René Bouchard

On display