

Plate

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The plate is complete; it has a crack on the inner base and is missing around the rim. The plate is circular with a plain rim. The rim slopes slightly inwards, the side is socked and the bottom is flat and recessed. The plate rests on a small milled foot that is free of glaze; the decoration is traced and hand-painted in pale blue underglaze. The decoration is visible on the rim,

side and bottom of the plate, as well as on the reverse. It is typical of vases and precious objects. The marly decoration is bordered by a fillet near the rim, and is composed of two groups of alternating leafy and flowering plant motifs resting on the fillet near the rim. The elements of one group are a bamboo stalk painted dark blue, flanked by two bamboo leaves painted in succession and two half-leaves, one painted faded blue and the other dark blue. The other group consists of an elevated form made of dark-blue beaded ovals similar to a bunch of grapes, bordered by a pair of tendrils. The wall is decorated at the top with a double ring. The bottom decoration is encircled by a double ring. It consists of a solid rectangular block, painted dark blue and faded, resting on a support with feet. A similar shape emerges at the back, supporting two gourds that encircle a tall pot with a choked neck and leafy, flowering stems. Around the vase are painted three ribboned objects similar to the eight precious objects of Confucian philosophy: an open lozenge, a pierced coin-like object and a book. The marli is decorated on the reverse with two wavy stems. The rim of the plate is covered with an iron-brown coating.

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Date 1750

Materials ceramics, fine hard-paste porcelain from China

Measurements 2,7 x 22,7129 cm

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Photo by René Bouchard

On display