

# Saucer

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The saucer is complete. It is circular in shape. The wall is flared at the top and surmounted by a flared wing with an undulating rim. The wall curves at the base towards the sock, which is flat. It rests on a ring-shaped foot. The underside of the base is recessed and flat. The foot is free of glaze ; The decoration is molded, hand-painted in underglaze blue and painted with

overglaze gilding. The decoration is a lake scene. The molded decoration is visible on the outer wall, and perceptible on the inner wall; it consists of vertical grooves, from the foot to the rim. Painted decoration can be seen under the rim and on the inner base. The decoration under the rim is complex and consists of three groups of paired elements repeated alternately under a strand of pearls with a core. One group consists of a stylized, ribbed half-flower in reserve, beneath which is a scroll; it is flanked by a cluster of ribbed leaves and a latticework of off-center beads, similar to fish scales. The other motif features two three-lobed shapes filled with core beads, set against a cross-shaped lattice closed by two scrolls. The final motif consists of two wheels with diamond-shaped centers, i.e. coins, on a cross-braced background. The background depicts an oriental scene with river, bridge and islands. On the main island are buildings and a tiered pagoda, with trees in between. The roof of the pagoda on the right rests on four pillars and is bordered by a willow tree on the left. In front of the island is a massive single-arch bridge. To the right, a long bridge supported by N-shaped pillars spans a stream, leading to an island with two buildings in front of a tree. Two boats are visible in front of and behind the bridge. The secondary setting includes another island with buildings and trees, bordered by rocks at water level. Birds fly in the sky. A gilded fillet has been painted on the top and inner edge.

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Date 1790 c

Materials ceramics, fine hard-paste porcelain from China

Measurements 3,1 x 12,374 cm

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Photo by René Bouchard