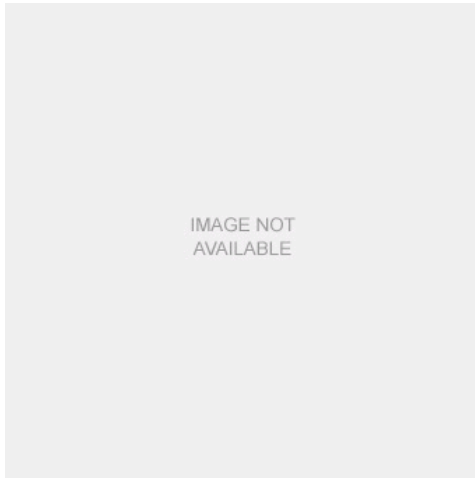


532

8008

A MAGNIFICENT LARGE IMPERIAL COURT PORTRAIT OF WU FU, BRIGADIER GENERAL OF GANSU REGION



Sale Information

Sale 8008

The Imperial Sale & Fine Chinese

Works Of Art

26 April 1999

Hong Kong

Price Realized (Set Currency)

HK\$790,000

(\$101,967)

Price includes buyer's premium

Estimate

HK\$700,000 - HK\$900,000

(\$90,351 - \$116,165)

Lot Description

A MAGNIFICENT LARGE IMPERIAL COURT PORTRAIT OF WU FU, BRIGADIER GENERAL OF GANSU REGION QIANLONG, DATED SPRING OF *GENGCHEN* YEAR, CORRESPONDING TO A.D. 1760 AND OF THE PERIOD

The painting is executed in ink and colour on silk and depicts the military official, Wu Fu, standing astride wearing an official's hat, holding a quiver containing long arrows over his right shoulder, both his arms are raised, the left hand holding a bow with the right hand drawing back the bow-string, the archer's ring is worn on the right thumb, the portrait has a dedication written above the yellow silk in both Chinese and Manchu between the Qianlong date and bears the Emperor's imperial seal, *Qianlong yu lan zhi bao*
74 x 37 1/2 in. (188 x 95.2 cm.)

Lot Notes

Previously sold in New York, 2 December 1992, lot 68.

The present lot is part of a group of paintings commemorating the military success of Qing forces in the northwestern frontier of China between 1755 to 1759. As a result of these military campaigns the Yili Valley and Eastern Turkestan came under Chinese control and was renamed Xinjiang province.

According to the research of Nie Chongzhen at the Palace Museum, Beijing, a total of two-hundred and eighty meritorious servitors' portraits were painted during emperor Qianlong's reign. These paintings can be divided into three groups: one hundred were of those who put down the Heibu rebellion of western China (the first fifty were inscribed by Qianlong); one hundred of those who quelled the Daxiao jingchuan rebellion (the first fifty were also with Qianlong inscriptions); fifty were of those who ended the Taiwan rebellion; and the remaining thirty were those who stopped the Guo'er rebellion.

Of all the portraits painted, only ten or twenty can now be accounted for mostly in public and private institutions. This is one of the only remaining meritorious servitor portraits left in private hands. The inscription is signed by Liu Tongxun (1699-1773) and Yu Minzhong (1714-1779) in commending Wu Fu, the military general of Gansu province.

Of the other known hanging scrolls, two are in the Royal Ontario Museum, one of which is a Portrait of Namjar, illustrated in *Homage to Heaven Homage to Earth*, no. 138. At least three groups of court painters worked together in the production of these paintings, one group under the supervision of those adept in portraiture with two others responsible for the remainder of the figures and their military equipment, *op. cit.*, p. 242.

For other examples cf. a portrait of Moer Gen Batulu Daketana, sold in these Rooms, The Imperial Sale, 27 April 1997, lot 98, where the written dedication honours the soldier for his success in suppressing the rebellion in Xinjiang province. Compare also three other paintings: a portrait of Keshiki Batu Luwuke Shier, sold in our New York Rooms, 27 March 1997, lot 101; a portrait of Te Gu Si Ba, sold in New York, 1 June 1993; and a portrait of the Imperial Bodyguard of the First Rank, sold in New York, 3 June 1986, lot 90.

(US\$90,000-120,000)

THE PROPERTY OF A GENTLEMAN

532

A MAGNIFICENT LARGE IMPERIAL COURT PORTRAIT OF WU FU, BRIGADIER GENERAL OF GANSU REGION

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Estimate: HK\$700,000-900,000

(US\$90,000-120,000)

清 無款 平定西域紫光閣次五十功臣像 設色絹本 鏡框
領隊大臣肅州鎮總兵官五福

題識：“領隊大臣肅州鎮總兵官五福

礮車失衝，謫官示懲。

輜重克全，復鎮旌能。

功於過觀，瑕不瑜匿。

況同苦甘，允率爾職。

乾隆庚辰（1760年）春。臣劉統勳。臣劉綸。臣于敏中奉勅恭贊”

鈐印：乾隆御覽之寶

註：關於紫光閣功臣像據北京故宮博物館宮廷繪畫專家聶崇正先生考証為“平定西域準回部”前後功臣各五十。“平定大小金川”前後功臣各五十。“平定臺灣”五十功臣。“平定廓爾喀”功臣三十。總計二百八十幅。目前知道存世僅二十幅。

除少數幾幅私人收藏外，大多數為世界各地公私博物館所藏。

領隊大臣肅州
鎮總兵官五福
礮車失衛謫官示
懲輜重克全復鎮
旌能功於過觀瑕
不瑜匿况同苦甘
允率爾職

勅恭贊
乾隆庚辰春 御製

肅州鎮總兵官五福，礮車失衛，謫官示懲，輜重克全，復鎮旌能，功於過觀，瑕不瑜匿，况同苦甘，允率爾職。



THE IMPERIAL SALE & FINE CHINESE WORKS OF ART

Auction:

Monday 26 April 1999

at 2:00 p.m. precisely (Lots 501-692)

At the JW Marriott Hotel, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Hong Kong

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SINGAPORE, Grand Hyatt Singapore Tuesday-Wednesday	6-7 April	10:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
TAIPEI, Shin Kong Museum Friday-Sunday	16-18 April	10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Viewing

HONG KONG, 3/E, the JW Marriott Hotel Friday-Sunday	23-25 April	10:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
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