

Basic Detail Report



Three-panel screen

Date

late 19th century

Medium

Ink, crayon and chalk on paper, mounted on silk

Description

This screen is exemplary of the Korean folk painting tradition and would have decorated a room in hopes that its iconography would bring good luck for the inhabitants. The screen depicts at least two different classifications of folk painting: the left-most panel portrays the harmony that exists between flowers and birds, a type of

subject called hwajodo, while the other two panels depict a number of plants and animals that denote long life, a classification called shipchangsaengdo. Korean folk painting was intentionally formulaic. Specific animals and plants are depicted for their symbolic meaning, which would have been clear to those who viewed them. For example, the type of bird that appears on the left-most panel represented goodness, morality, and virtue, and always appears with depictions of the paulownia tree, whereas the imaginary mushroom-like plants that appear at the lower right, called pulloch'o, were considered by Taoists to bestow eternal life (SOURCE: Wellin Museum permanent collection label, Summer 2016).

Dimensions

Overall (Each panel): 33 3/8 × 16 3/4 in. (84.8 × 42.5 cm) Overall (Open): 33 3/8 × 50 1/4 in. (84.8 × 127.6 cm)