



## A LARGE AND IMPOSING CHINESE BLUE AND WHITE 'KRAAK PORSELEIN KLAPMUTS' SHALLOW BOWL POA

Of circular deep form with gently foliate rim, painted in vibrant shades of underglaze blue, the central roundel decorated with a jardiniere in a terraced garden bearing chrysanthemum and other towering blooms, with ribboned chimes and castanets alongside, butterflies hover above, surrounded by shaped panels to the cavetto containing auspicious symbols including a ruyi sceptre, scrolls, a double gourd, and an artemisia leaf, the everted rim painted with large taotie masks divided by trellis ground lappets with reserved flower-heads, painted to the exterior with further wide panels enclosing stylised quatrefoil cartouches alternating with narrow panels, floral sprays to the outer rim, the base glazed, together with wood presentation box.

Period: Wanli (1573?1619).

Footnote: For a comparable example, see *Kraak Porcelain: A Moment in the History of Trade* by Maura Rinaldi, pl.151. Rinaldi's example, which is the same size as ours, is dated to c.1605-20, and is part of the collection of the Topkapi Saray Museum, Istanbul (Inv. no 15/3780). This fine object is further illustrated in Regina Krahl's *Topkapi Saray Museum, Istanbul, A Complete Catalogue II, Yuan and Ming Dynasty Porcelains*, edited by John Ayers, pl.1481, TKS 15/3780.

<b>Origin</b>	Chinese
<b>Period</b>	16th Century
<b>Dimensions</b>	Diameter: 37 cm; 14.5 ins.

Antique ref: BH53