



Chinese polychrome figure of Zhong-li Quan, Qianlong (1736-95) POA

Chinese polychrome figure of Zhong-li Quan, Qianlong (1736-95), the immortal holding a fan in his left hand and a yellow bowl in his right, wearing pink robes with dragon roundels and floral trim with a green stippled ground.

Height: 25cm. (9 3/4in.)

Condition: Some damage

The Eight Immortals are a legendary group of Daoist figures said to have lived during the Tang or Song dynasties, and appear as a group on artwork dating back to the Jin dynasty, though evidence survives suggesting that worship of individual Daoist immortal figures was prevalent during the Han. The immortal depicted here is Zhongli Quan ???, associated with death (he uses his fan to bring the dead back to life) and said to be able to produce precious metals with the magic of a philosopher's stone. The others are Lu Dongbin???, a scholar and poet considered the leader of the immortals; Cao Guojiu???, said to be related to a Song dynasty emperor in his mortal life, generally depicted in official robes and holding 'paiban' (traditional Chinese clappers), regarded as the patron deity of the performing arts; Zhang Guolao???, usually depicted carrying a fish drum (a tube-shaped bamboo drum with two iron striking rods); Li Tieguai???, associated with medicine and easing the suffering of the sick, identifiable by his calabash bottle; Han Xiangzi???, a flautist; He Xiangu???, a female immortal often depicted holding a lotus; and Lan Caihe???, originally depicted in female form, the patron deity of florists and gardeners.

Material and Technique	Porcelain figure with overglaze polychrome enamel decoration
Origin	Chinese
Period	18th Century
Dimensions	Height: 25cm. (9 3/4in.)