



Chinese famille rose biscuit figure of Lan Caihe, Qianlong (1736-95) POA

Chinese famille rose biscuit figure of Lan Caihe, Qianlong (1736-95), the immortal standing upon a base of crashing waves and holding a basket of flowers in her right hand, wearing a long flowing tunic in green with scattered flowerheads and deep red panels tied with a pink belt.

Dimensions:

Height: 22.5cm. (8 13/16in.)

Condition:

Small chips to tips of fingers and flowers in basket

Notes:

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 Lan Caihe???, originally shown in female form, the patron deity of florists and gardeners. 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 Zhongli Quan ???, associated with death and said to be able to produce precious metals with the magic of a philosopher's stone.

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| Material and Technique | Biscuit porcelain moulded figure with overglaze enamel decoration in the famille rose palette |
| Origin | Chinese |
| Period | 18th Century |
| Dimensions | Height: 22.5cm. (8 13/16in.) |

