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Sotheby's Fine Chinese Paintings Autumn Sale Presents

Paintings from the Collection of

LUK YU TEA HOUSE

**Zhang Daqian's *Mount Huang Scenery*
Painted for Luk Yu Tea House
Before his Departure from Hong Kong in the 1950s**

**Public Exhibition: 3 – 6 October | Auction: 7 October
Hall 1, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre**

IMAGE DOWNLOAD

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HONG KONG, 5 September, 2019 Sotheby's will present two treasured paintings from the collection of Luk Yu Tea House in a sale of Fine Chinese Paintings on 7 October: Zhang Daqian's *Mount Huang Scenery*, a gift by the artist for Luk Yu before his departure from Hong Kong in the 1950s, and *Scholar Resting under Pine Tree*, a rare example of a painting jointly created by Zhang Daqian and Pu Ru.

Carmen Ip, Head of Department, Fine Chinese Paintings, Sotheby's Asia, comments, "Luk Yu Tea House has been a gathering place for literati and artists for more than eight decades, as evidenced by the masterpieces that filled the walls of the house. Over the years, the house amassed a sumptuous collection of artworks, whether direct gifts from artists and friends or through the acquisition of carefully chosen works when they appeared on the market. This autumn, we are privileged to be entrusted with the sale of two prized paintings from Luk Yu, not least a special gift from Zhang Daqian to the house before he left Hong Kong in 1950s – *Mount Huang Scenery*."



Zhang Daqian, *Mount Huang Scenery*

Ink and colour on paper, framed, 1952, 40.5 by 180 cm.

Est. HK\$6,500,000-8,500,000

By the end of 1949, Zhang Daqian had stayed in numerous places, including Taipei, Darjeeling, Tokyo, and Hong Kong, before making a decision to move to Argentina. He returned to Hong Kong in 1951, in preparation for his eventual departure from the city in September of that year. During this period, he frequented the Luk Yu Tea House with acquaintances, and painted many works as gifts dedicated to close friends.

Mount Huang Scenery was created in the summer of 1952 for Luk Yu Tea House, and the dedicated inscriptions paint a vivid picture of Zhang Daqian's visits to the tea house. The work was painted in the same period as another piece by the artist which was gifted to Luk Yu owner Ma Chaowan (馬超萬), which is still displayed there today.

As Mount Huang is well known for tea cultivation, the work was ideally suited to Luk Yu, famed for serving high quality tea and cuisine. At six-feet long, the painting leads the viewer through a panoramic journey of the iconic scenery of Mount Huang, in which grotesquely-shaped peaks and gnarled pines emerge through a perpetual sea of clouds. The mountainous scenery unfolds along the painting horizontally, a compositional shape perfectly suited for placement in one of the halls at Luk Yu Tea House.



**Zhang Daqian and Pu Ru,
*Scholar Resting under Pine Tree***

Ink and colour on paper, framed, 1946, 94 by 43.3 cm

Est. HK\$850,000-1,000,000

This painting was jointly created by Zhang Daqian and Pu Ru, an old acquaintance of Zhang and a painter of repute, towards the end of 1945, when both artists were residing at the Summer Palace.

The work depicts a scenic spot in Mount Huang, where a squarish rock protrudes into a sea of clouds. At the edge of the rock sits a white-robed wise man and a young apprentice in red, who are experiencing the dramatic mountain scenery side by side.

Luk Yu Tea House

Luk Yu Tea House is one of the very few traditional Cantonese teahouses that still exists in Hong Kong. Open since 1933, the tea house specializes in authentic Cantonese cuisine, and is praised for its high quality and wide variety of teas.

The interior is designed in classic Lingnan style, with Qing-style rosewood furniture harmoniously placed within the colonial decorations. The walls are filled with Chinese calligraphy and paintings by renowned artists, boasting Luk Yu's deep ties with the art world.

Luk Yu Tea House was frequented by artists including Zhang Daqian, Deng Fen, Zhao Shao'ang, Yang Shanshen, Huang Junbi, and Huang Yongyu, and remains to this day a popular meeting place for artists and art lovers.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

SOTHEBY'S HONG KONG 2019 AUTUMN SALES

Auctions	Category
4 Oct	Finest & Rarest Wines and Spirits Featuring The Magnificent Cellar of Park B. Smith A Glorious Burgundy Collection
5 Oct	Modern Art Evening Sale Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Art Evening Sale The Distinguished Cellar of a Pioneering Collector
6 Oct	Modern Art Modern & Contemporary Southeast Asian Art Contemporary Art Evening Sale Moutarderie Nationale: The Gillion Crowet Collection Fine Classical Chinese Paintings
7 Oct	Contemporary Art Fine Chinese Paintings Magnificent Jewels and Jadeite
8 Oct	Important Chinese Art Important Watches
Selling Exhibitions	Category
10 Sep – 9 Oct	Hsiao Chin – Infinite Universe
3 – 7 Oct	Panorama: A New Perspective Old Masters / A Brush with Italy Barry Flanagan Selling Exhibition
3 – 8 Oct	Sotheby's Diamonds Sotheby's Wine Retail

HONG KONG EXHIBITION AND AUCTION VENUE

Hall 1, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (New Wing), 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

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