

Basic Detail Report



Pendant

Date
1644-1940

Medium
Jade

Description

Due to the tastes of the Qianlong Emperor and the discovery of new sources of nephrite and jadeite, the Qing Dynasty saw a huge rise in the production of jade carvings. Milky white jade was mostly used during this period by scholars who preferred the older style of jade and believed in its spiritual properties: that it possessed five virtues conveyed in Confucian moral teachings, had preservative qualities, and was associated with immortality. There is a long history of jade figures in China, first appearing in the round in the Shang Dynasty (1600-1027 BCE). Pendants, particularly those in the shape of animals were among the most common jade carvings. The animal in this pendant has characteristics of multiple animals and has been described elsewhere as a lion-like auspicious beast.

Dimensions
2 3/4 × 1 1/8 × 1 in. (7 × 2.9 × 2.5 cm)