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> Wisteria Maiden and Falconer

Wisteria Maiden and Falconer

by Sadahiro II (1838 - 1918) (<https://www.fujiarts.com/cgi-bin/search.pl?action=search&querytype=1&desc=true&query=&match=Or&artist=sadahiro%20ii&category=&types=&itemstatus=openonly&sort=newest&bidmin=&bidmax=&binmin=&binmax=&pb=25>)

Current Status

Item Closed

Original Sadahiro II (1838 - 1918) (<https://www.fujiarts.com/cgi-bin/search.pl?action=search&querytype=1&desc=true&query=&match=Or&artist=sadahiro%20ii&category=&types=&itemstatus=openonly&sort=newest&bidmin=&bidmax=&binmin=&binmax=&pb=25>)

Japanese Woodblock Print

Wisteria Maiden and Falconer

Osaka Prints - Produced in the Kansai region, including Osaka and Kyoto, Osaka prints or kamigata-e are instantly distinguishable from typical Edo ukiyo-e. A major difference is the choice of subject matter. Osaka prints were nearly always portraits of actors or kabuki scenes. In contrast, Edo print subjects included beauties, landscapes, nature scenes, warriors, and historic events, in addition to kabuki.

Distinctly different artistic styles also emerged in Edo and Osaka in the 18th and 19th century, resulting in certain recognizable characteristics for each area. Osaka prints feature more subtle, serious figures, reflecting the wagoto or soft style of acting prevalent in the area, along with distinctive facial expressions. The aragoto or brash manner of acting popular in Edo influenced print designs towards bolder images of heroism and military prowess.

Much like the style of the prints, the demand for ukiyo-e in the cities of Osaka and Edo also varied. Osaka produced far fewer ukiyo-e designs than Edo did. As a consequence, Osaka prints are rarer and also some of the highest quality prints made in the 19th century, with many featuring deluxe techniques such as burnishing or embossing. Osaka prints are a rare and wonderful collecting area of Japanese woodblocks.

Comments - Handsome kabuki design featuring two roles based on otsu-e, traditional Japanese folk paintings sold as souvenirs to travelers at the post station of Otsu. The beauty kneeling at left is the Wisteria Maiden, carrying a branch of wisteria with delicate purple flowers over her shoulder. She wears a black lacquer hat and a black kimono bordered with wisteria vines and flowers. The Falconer stands at right with a bird perched atop his gloved hand. He wears a blue coat with a pattern of lightning bolts and wheels over a purple kimono tucked into pink pants. A border of softly shaded yellow clouds separates the figures from a landscape view of the water with mountains on the opposite shore. A terrific Osaka print, beautifully printed with fine bokashi shading, burnishing in the black hat, and metallic silver and dark gold pigments in the coat pattern.

Artist - Sadahiro II (1838 - 1918) (<https://www.fujiarts.com/cgi-bin/search.pl?action=search&querytype=1&desc=true&query=&match=Or&artist=sadahiro%20ii&category=&types=&itemstatus=openonly&sort=newest&bidmin=&bidmax=&binmin=&binmax=&pb=25>)

Image Size - 9 3/4" x 13 7/8" + left margin as shown

Condition - This print with excellent color and detail as shown. Two attached panels, backed with paper. A few wormholes, repaired. Slight soiling, slight offsetting. Please see photos for details. Good overall.



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