



**In vendita: arte dell'Asia orientale, inchiostro su carta**

**For sale: East Asian art, ink on paper**



**Ogni opera d'arte è timbrata con un sigillo rosso**

**Each artwork is stamped with a red seal**



68 x 32 cm

This artwork depicts rabbits in a traditional East Asian style, with elements of Chinese or Japanese brush painting. In many East Asian cultures, rabbits carry various symbolic meanings:

1. **Fertility and Abundance:** Rabbits are often associated with fertility, life, and abundance because of their reproductive nature.
2. **Good Fortune:** In Chinese culture, rabbits symbolize good luck and prosperity.
3. **Connection to the Moon:** Rabbits are connected to the moon in Chinese and Japanese mythology. For example, the “Jade Rabbit” (or Moon Rabbit) is said to live on the moon and accompany Chang’e, the moon goddess.
4. **Gentleness and Longevity:** Rabbits often represent gentleness and long life due to their peaceful nature.



69 x 35 cm

The Chinese inscription reads Pu Songling, 75 years old, in the year of Dingmao.”

- Pu Songling (1640–1715) was a famous Chinese writer best known for his collection of supernatural tales, *Strange Stories from a Chinese Studio* (聊斋志异).

- Dingmao year refers to a year in the Chinese zodiac cycle, which corresponds to 1687 during his lifetime.

- The inscription suggests that this is a depiction or homage to Pu Songling at the age of 75, likely showing him in a reflective or humble moment.

The donkey could symbolize simplicity, humility, or the journey of a scholar.





67 x 35 cm

Traditional Chinese painting of peonies, accompanied by calligraphy and a red seal.

Interpretation:

1. Peonies: Known as “牡丹” (mǔ dān), the peony is regarded as the “King of Flowers.” It symbolizes wealth, prosperity, honour, and beauty. Peonies are often depicted as a sign of elegance and are a popular subject in Chinese art.

2. Calligraphy:

- The first two characters, “牡丹,” confirm the subject as peonies.
- The remaining characters likely include a seasonal reference, artist signature, or dedication.

The smaller characters might also mention the 丁卯 year (a lunar year designation), which corresponds to specific years in the Chinese calendar.

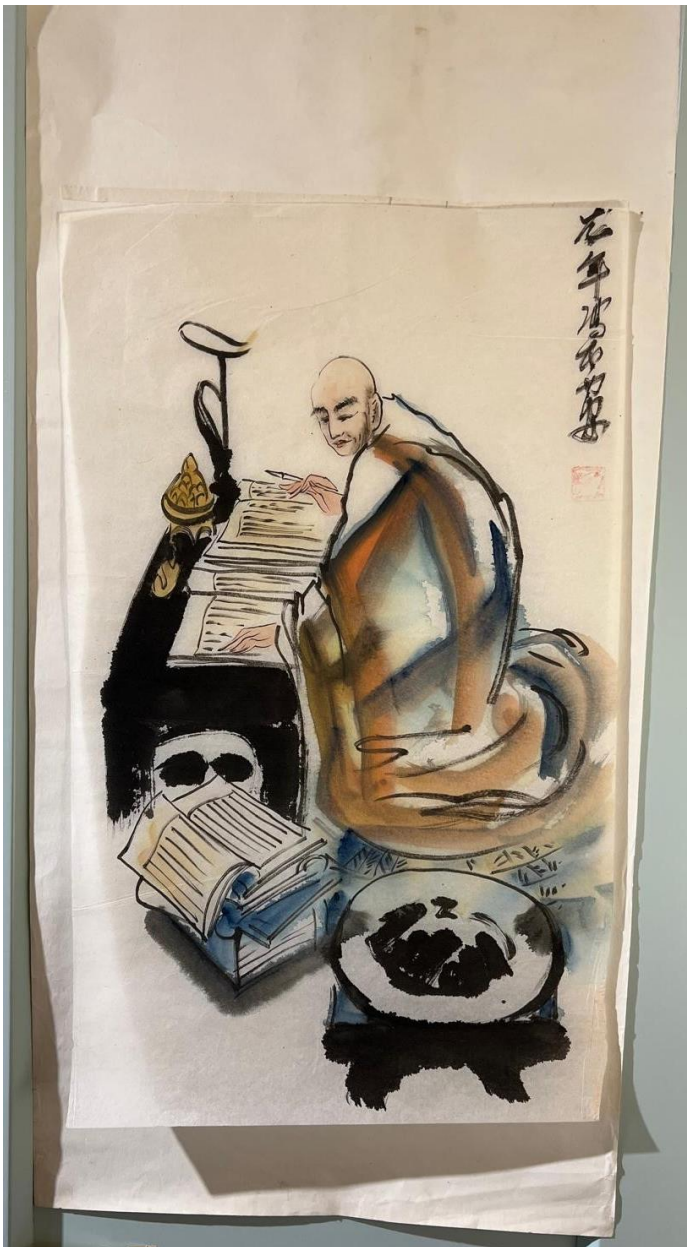


52 x 29.5 cm

Traditional ink painting or calligraphic artwork featuring a figure leading a donkey. Such depictions often hold cultural or symbolic meanings, particularly in East Asian art.

The figure could represent a historical or philosophical character, such as Laozi (Lao Tzu), often depicted riding or leading a donkey, symbolizing humility, simplicity, and wisdom.

The calligraphy on the side might offer further insight, possibly a poem, proverb, or information about the artist.



55 x 32.5 cm

#### Notable Artists:

Artists like Hakuin Ekaku, a renowned Zen master, created paintings and calligraphy that embody these themes, using art as a means to convey Zen teachings.

#### Cultural Context:

Artistic tradition deeply rooted in Zen Buddhism, where art serves as aesthetic expression but as a medium for spiritual practice and enlightenment.

Monk or scholar surrounded by books and symbolic elements elements such as a skull and ink likely rooted in Eastern Asian artistic and philosophical traditions, particularly within the context of Zen Buddhism.

#### Zen Ink Painting and Calligraphy (Zenga):

In Japan, “Zenga” refers to paintings and calligraphies by Zen monk-painters, especially from the Edo period (1615–1868). These works often depict deities, patriarchs, and Zen sayings, serving as tools for meditation and teaching Zen principles.

#### Symbolism in the Artwork:

- **Monk or Scholar:** Depicting monks or scholars in such artworks emphasizes the Zen ideals of meditation, enlightenment, and the pursuit of inner wisdom.
- **Books and Scrolls:** These symbolize transmission of knowledge and the importance of teachings in the Zen tradition.
- **Skull:** may serve as a memento mori, reminding practitioners of the impermanence of life and the importance of spiritual awakening.
- **Ink and Brush:** The use of ink and brush reflects spontaneity and expression of the artist’s state of mind.