



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to MS 7422 Paintings
of mythological figures, 1909

National Anthropological Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	MS 7422 Paintings of mythological figures
Date:	1908-1909
Identifier:	NAA.MS7422
Creator:	Xu Hui Qin
Extent:	3 Paintings (visual works) (24 x 45 inches)
Language:	Chinese .
Container:	Folder 7422

Administrative Information

Provenance

The collection was donated to the United States National Museum by Dr. Claude Herman Barlow on December 13, 1909. It was transferred from the object collections of the Department of Anthropology to the National Anthropological Archives in August 1986.

Preferred Citation

MS 7422 Paintings of mythological figures, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Access to the collection requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of three (3) paintings on thin paper collected by Claude Herman Barlow in Huzhou, China in 1909. The paintings depict mythological figures, including a dragon, a fish, and a man, and are signed by the artist, Xu Hui Qin. Each painting has been marked in pencil with an explanation in English of the figure.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or National Anthropological Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Local Numbers

NAA MS 7422

USNM Accession 50926

USNM Catalog 256980

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Chinese
Mythology

Cultures:

Chinese

Types of Materials:

Paintings
Works of art

Places:

East Asia
Huzhou Shi (China)

Container Listing

Fong Sei, 1908 December

1 Paintings (visual works)

Notes: NAA INV 10000084

A grey dragon, partially obscured by water or fog.

English inscription reads: Fong Sei or wind and water dragon

The Chinese Carp, 1909 March

1 Paintings (visual works)

Notes: NAA INV 10000082

Li Yeu tian long man

A grey fish swimming among green plants.

English inscription reads:

Li Yeu tian long mun The Chinese Carp Sacred fish of the Buddhists which they (the people who buy it from the Buddhist priest) set free as an act of merit and then catch and sell again to others. It enables the person who lets it go to become a great scholar.

Gwan Gong, undated

1 Paintings (visual works)

Notes: NAA INV 10000083

Depicts a man with a long black beard wearing a grey emperor's robe and blue hat holding a scroll and sitting on a tiger skin.

English inscription reads: Gwan Gong A high rank scholar-god supposed to be a very good god.