PAGODA RED









AMETHYST PEACH BRUSH WASHER

\$1,880

c. 1850 • China • Gems • Collection #CMKH026 W: 4.0" D: 3.5" H: 2.75"

A Qing-dynasty scholar would have used this finely carved amethyst brush washer to rinse the ink from his calligraphy brush. Crafted from a single block of amethyst, the washer is shaped into a ripe peach, with curling leaves carved in low relief. Among the leaves is a curious fruit bat - a symbol of happiness and good fortune. An emblem of longevity, the peach figures prominently in the Ming-dynasty novel "Journey to the West," wherein the Monkey King Sun Wukong eats from the heavenly peach garden to obtain immortality.