PAGODA RED



SOARING PHOENIX CALLIGRAPHY BRUSH

\$288

c. 1900 • Northern China, China • Wood • Collection #KK064S W: 19.5" D: 2.0" H: 1.25"

Along with paper, ink, and inkstone, the brush was part of the Four Treasures found in a scholar's studio. Arguably the most important tool, the brush served as a direct link to the artist's creative spirit. This early 20th-century calligraphy brush would have once been used to write official documents or compose poetry. He would have held the handle upright in his hand - pressing down on the bristles to create heavier, bold strokes and lifting it up to make willowy, lighter strokes. Continued...

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As much decorative as practical, the brush handle is carved in the form of soaring phoenixes, symbols of beauty and prosperity.