

Album

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.: **59.71.1** 

Type: **object for daily use; lacquers; album**

Date of production: **1950s**

Place of production: **Vietnam, Southeast Asia**

Materials/Technique
s: **wood, lacquer, paper**

Dimensions: **height: 30 cm
length: 39. 5 cm**

Lacquer-covered album with landscape. The picture shows a maple tree covered with red leaves in the foreground, which provides a pleasant view of a charming little water scene (a tiny island with a gazebo on it). The album contains photographs of Vietnamese dance groups glued to twenty cardboard sheets.

The Vietnamese lacquer art, a prominent branch of local craftsmanship, enjoyed a renaissance at the turn of the twentieth century. What's more, painters themselves began to experiment with the use of lacquer in fine art, as encouraged by the French artist Victor Tardeu, founder of the Indochinese Academy of Arts. The representatives of the lacquer painting movement, which could hardly be separated from nationalist and modernist aspirations, expected it to create, in addition to artistic experimentation, a distinctively Vietnamese art that could be exported.

