

Traditional New Year picture - Wrestling (Vietnames: Đánh vật)

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.: **61.1.11** 

Type: **print; woodblock print**

Date of production: **between 1950 and 1960**

Place of production: **Bắc Ninh province, Đông Hồ village, Vietnam, Southeast Asia**

Materials/Technique
s: **paper, coloured woodblock print**

Dimensions: **height: 24. 8 cm
width: 35. 4 cm**

This engraving, made in the Đông Hồ workshop in Vietnam, shows wrestlers performing various holds, dressed for the occasion (the rules only allow wrestlers to wear loincloths).

Wrestling is traditionally part of the New Year celebrations in Vietnam. These competitions are contested by men from many village communities and men from different shrine districts.

According to some ethnographers, wrestling is in fact a symbolic fertility rite.

