

Water pipe

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.: 2015.42.1 

Type: object for daily use; pottery

Date of production: late 19th century

Place of production: Vietnam, Southeast Asia

Materials/Technique: porcelain, underglaze blue, with metal backings
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Dimensions: height: 11 cm
diameter: 12 cm

Blue and white porcelain, with metallic overlays around the openings. The suspension chain is attached to the neck of the object by a metal chain. One side has floral (chrysanthemum?) motifs, the other side shows a picture of a pair of butterflies (marital fidelity). The pipe stem is missing.

A favourite pastime of the Vietnamese is smoking, including the use of hookah, of which three types are distinguished. The object in the picture called a dieu bat, is made of ceramic and, unlike its counterparts, is used more for domestic consumption. It is usually placed in a larger bowl which holds the ashes.

