



PROANTIC  
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

## Agate Tobacco Bottle, Adorned With Meticulous Interior Painting



500 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Width : 4.6cm

Height : 6.3cm

Depth : 2.2cm

### Description

This agate tobacco bottle, adorned with meticulous interior painting, perfectly illustrates the refinement of traditional Chinese art. Carved from a translucent agate stone with warm, natural tones, the object reveals subtle plays of color in the light, highlighting the scene painted inside. The "inside painting" technique demands exceptional skill: the artist inserts a very fine brush through the narrow neck of the bottle and creates the image by working in reverse, stroke by stroke. On this particular model, one can discern a poetic landscape composed of misty mountains, trees with delicate blossoms, and small traditional dwellings. The composition evokes the serenity of nature and the harmony between humankind and its environment, themes dear to classical Chinese painting. The finely

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The Golden Cabinet

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polished, green stopper completes the ensemble.

This type of bottle was not merely a utilitarian object for holding snuff, but also a true work of art and a collector's item, prized for its refinement, originality, and virtuosity of execution. Even today, it testifies to the unique skill and wealth of Chinese artisans. (1880-1920s)