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Japanese Print By Hiroshige And Toyokokuni 'story Of Kannon's Miracles' 1858-1859



320 EUR

Signature : Hiroshige Utagawa II (1826-1869) et Toyokuni Utagawa III ou Utagawa Kunisada (1786-1865)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Paper

Width : 27

Height : 38

Description

Japanese print representing "The story of the miracles of Kannon" (Kannon Reigenki) Bottom left the seal "Aratame" of the publisher Yamadaya Shôjirô.

This print is of great interest because it presents an intermediate state (the inking of several colors is absent).

Period 19th century, 1858-1859.

Dimensions of the view: H 35.5 x W 24 cm

The authors

Hiroshige Utagawa II (1826-1869) was an ukiyo-e painter, main pupil of the great master Hiroshige.

Toyokuni Utagawa III or Utagawa Kunisada (1786-1865) was one of the most popular ukiyo-e painters of the 19th century and also one of the

Dealer

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most prolific and financially successful, ahead of Kuniyoshi and Hiroshige .

This print

Since ancient times, there has been a strong devotion to the goddess (bodhisattva) Kannon, in Japan. There are famous pilgrimage routes to temples dedicated to Kannon all over Japan, and the "Hundred Kannon Pilgrimage" consists of three routes with 33 temples in Kansai (western Japan), 33 temples in Kanto (in eastern Japan) and 34 temples in the Chichibu area of Saitama prefecture.

This print is a multicolored woodblock print from the Edo period (1603-1868), called nishiki-e, which depicts the first temple of the Chichibu pilgrimage, Shimabu-ji (also known as Myoon-ji).

This print was created and sold in Edo (now Tokyo) in 1858 in commemoration of the temporary public display of bodhisattva artifacts at the temple. The upper part of the print, painted by Utagawa Hiroshige II, shows the temple itself inside a frame that looks like a votive tablet for the temple. The text in this upper part indicates that Shimabu-ji was founded in 1007 by Gendobiku, a disciple of Shoku Shonin of Shoshazan Engyo-ji (the 27th temple of the Kansai pilgrimage). Guided by a sacred bird, Gendobiku reached the area that would become Shimabu-ji and recited 40,000 sutras. This story forms the basis of two of the temple's names, Shimabu-ji (roughly, "temple of 40,000 sutras") and Dokkyozan (roughly, "mountain temple where sutras are recited"). The lower part of the print, painted by Utagawa Toyokuni III, depicts the story of a miracle associated with the temple: a violent man attacks a young pilgrim, turns Kannon into disguise, but completely changes his ways upon hearing the kind words of Kanno. The publisher of this print is registered as Yamada Yasho Jiro, located at Minamitenma-cho 2 in Edo (former name of Tokyo).

Ukiyo-e is a Japanese term meaning "picture of the floating world", it is a Japanese art movement of the Edo period (1603-1868) comprising not only original popular and narrative painting, but also and especially the Japanese prints engraved on wood.

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