

BOXES

Ceramic boxes of various Ming periods





1. 明嘉靖 青花五彩龍鳳紋蓋盒

A *wucai* lidded round box painted with dragon and phoenix motifs

Ming dynasty, Jiajing period (1522–1566 AD)
H: 11.9 cm; D: 23 cm; B: 16.8 cm
[HFAC no.1599]







2. 明萬曆 青花五彩龍鳳紋長方蓋盒

**A *wucai* lidded rectangular box
decorated with dragon and phoenix motifs**

Ming dynasty, Wanli period (1573–1619 AD)

23.2 x 13.5 cm; H: 10.5 cm

[HFAC no.2586]





3. 明宣德 青花三友紋圓蓋盒

**An underglaze blue lidded round box
painted with the 'Three Friends of Winter' motif**

Ming dynasty, Xuande period (1426–1435 BC)

H: 13.9 cm; W: 26 cm; B: 15.6 cm

[HFAC No.3490]







此蓋盒呈扁圓狀，上下以子母口相合，口沿露胎。盒蓋中央平坦，繪以主題圖案「松竹梅歲寒三友紋」，外加雙青線。盒蓋及盒底外圍以蓮托八寶紋做裝飾。上下口沿帶狀側邊飾以纏枝如意雲紋，底足飾波濤紋一週。整體畫面繁複華麗，青花濃艷，色深處可見點點結晶鐵銹斑，盒子邊緣部份青花有較明顯的暈散。盒子內部可見環狀拉胚痕跡，施透明白釉，白釉微微泛青。圈足露胎處帶鐵質斑點，足內施白釉書青花「大明宣德年製」二行六字雙圈楷書款。

「歲寒三友」是中國歷代文人喜愛的書畫及紋飾題材。松竹長青，梅花寒冬綻放，比喻君子不畏環境堅苦堅忍不撓的精神。此紋飾自洪武時期便出現在瓷器上，相同紋飾可見台北故宮博物院藏「明宣德 青花歲寒三友暗花雙龍紋盤」，及大英博物館藏「明 宣德 青花歲寒三友紋碗」。

An underglaze blue round lidded box with sumptuous and meticulous designs. The box is painted with the motif 'Three Friends of Winter' at the center of the lid, and surrounded by lotus scrolls with eight auspicious symbols on both the top and bottom of the exterior. Both rims are decorated with a scroll of lingzhi fungus motif, and the footring has a band of waves motif. The cobalt blue pigment is deep and vibrant, with visible iron-rust-spots in the darker areas, and some haloing around the rims. Clear glaze was applied on the interior and underside of the footring and has an overall green-ish tint. Centered underneath the box is a six-character underglaze blue Xuande reign mark within a dual line circle.

First appearing on Chinese ceramics during the Hongwu period, the 'Three Friends of Winter' motif has always been a popular theme in paintings and decoration among the Chinese literati throughout the ages. The pine tree and bamboo are both noted evergreens, while the plum tree blossoms in the peak of winter. Together, they symbolize the unwavering spirit of a scholarly gentleman. The identical motif can be seen on a Xuande period underglaze blue dish in the Taipei Palace Museum (Image number K1B003124N000000000PAH), and a Xuande period bowl in the British Museum (Museum number PDF,B.635).

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大明宣
德年製





4. 明萬曆 青花五彩人物花果圓蓋盒

A *wucai* lidded round box painted with figures, flowering and fruiting branches

Ming dynasty, Wanli period (1573-1619 AD)

H: 11.7 cm; D: 20.7 cm; B: 15 cm

[HFAC no.3280]







5. 明萬曆 青花嬰戲紋方蓋盒

**An underglaze blue lidded square box
painted with children at play**

Ming dynasty, Wanli period (1573-1619 AD)

H: 15 cm; D: 20.3 cm; B: 14 cm

[HFAC no.2571]





6. 明宣德 藍釉留白枇杷綬帶鳥紋圓盒

**A blue-glazed lidded round box with
reserved white 'Paradise Flycatcher and Loquat' motif**

Ming dynasty, Xuande period (1426–1435 BC)

H: 13.7 cm; D: 26.3 cm; B: 16 cm

[HFAC no.4295]





此蓋盒呈扁圓狀，整體以藍釉加留白紋飾做裝飾。盒蓋中央微微塌陷，略有橘皮紋，以剔花方式留白主題圖案「枇杷綬帶鳥紋」，另在留白處以劃花勾繪鳥羽、葉脈、果蒂等細結，鳥眼以青花點睛，主圖外加一圈白線。盒蓋四週飾有四時折枝果，盒底週圍呼應四朵折枝花，同樣以劃花方式勾勒細節。圈足一道，及上下口沿側邊各有兩道略為模糊的白邊裝飾。盒子上下以子母口相合，口沿露胎，露胎處胎質潔白，有些微火石紅。盒內部施透明白釉，白釉泛青略帶波浪紋。圈足露胎處帶火石紅及鐵質斑點，有些藍色痕跡應是沾染藍釉所至。足內施白釉書青花「大明宣德年製」二行六字雙圈楷書款。此盒整體完整，略有牛毛刮痕及些許殘留土銹。

綬帶鳥意寓官運亨通和和富貴長壽，配以四時花果，有四時吉祥，高官長壽之意。宣德時期的藍釉深邃艷麗，配以剪影般的留白圖飾，形成藍白強烈對比的視覺效果，整體簡潔大氣，別有趣味。



A round box with lid decorated with reserved white motifs against a monochrome blue ground. The intense and vibrant blue glaze of the Xuande period against the white silhouette motifs creates an interesting contrast visual effect. The main motif 'Paradise Flycatcher and Loquat' is surrounded by four fruit branch trimmings of various seasons. Echoing the lid design are four additional flowering branch trimmings on the underside of the box. Delicate incised lines detail the feathers, fruits, flowers, and leaves, while a single dot of underglaze blue marks the bird's eye. A clear glaze with a greenish-tint and wave texture was applied on the interior and underside of the footring. Traces of blue on the surface of the footring brought about by contact with blue glaze during production. Centered underneath the box is a six-character underglaze blue Xuande reign mark within a dual line circle.

The Paradise Flycatcher bird represents a successful career, wealth, and longevity. Together with flowers and fruits of the four seasons, this motif symbolizes good fortune all year-round.







7. 明萬曆 青花五彩 ‘天下太平’ 人物方勝盒

A *wucai* lidded box of double lozenge shape painted with figures and ‘*tian xia tai ping* (world peace)’ characters

Ming dynasty, Wanli period (1573–1619 AD)

18 x 12.5 cm; H: 7.3 cm

[HFAC no.3128]





8. 明正德 青花園景花鳥圓蓋盒

**An underglaze blue lidded round box
painted with garden scene**

Ming dynasty, Zhengde period (1506–1521 AD)

H: 13 cm; D: 25.7 cm

[HFAC no.3129]







9. 明成化 鬥彩園景花鳥蓋盒

A *doucai* lidded round box painted with garden scene

Ming dynasty, Chenghua period (1465–1487 AD)

H: 12.5 cm; D: 22.6 cm

[HFAC no.1481]









此盒較常見圓蓋盒略小，弧形線條圓潤流暢無平頂直邊。上下以子母口相合，口沿露胎。紋飾以釉下青花繪製，燒成後填紅、綠、黃、姹紫各彩點綴。青料使用的是「平等青」，顏色藍中帶灰，深淺有致。盒蓋中央繪青花鬥彩園景花鳥蜂蝶，外加雙青線。盒蓋及盒底外圍飾折枝花果，花果上紅、黃、姹紫三色。上下口沿飾黃綠彩菱格錦地，底足飾青線黃彩一週。盒內繪各色如意八朵圍繞中央圓形隔間，隔間外牆上下及盒口沿處共飾雙青線三對。盒內隔間外牆近底部有一道約四公分較明顯窯裂。盒蓋內施透明白釉，白釉微微泛黃，有波浪紋。圈足露胎處胎質潔白，足內施白釉書青花「大明成化年製」二行六字雙圈楷書款。此盒有些微殘留土銹痕跡但通體釉色瑩潤、觸感絲滑。

江西景德鎮官窯址有出土相同紋樣成化青花圓蓋盒殘器，其紋飾有青花雙勾畫線，似為鬥彩的半成品。見1995年大阪市立東洋陶磁美術館編集《皇帝的瓷器--新發現的景德鎮官窯》圖版114，及1993年耿寶昌著《明清瓷器鑒定》第91頁圖160。本圖錄中另有一同紋樣正德年製青花圓蓋盒。



A ceramic lidded box with a smooth round form. The motif is painted with underglaze blue, then decorated with red, green, yellow, and purple after firing to create the color overglaze. The cobalt used is the domestic *pingdeng* blue, which is a more delicate blue with a hint of grey. The central theme on the lid is a colorful garden scene with birds and insects, and surrounded by flower and fruit branch trimmings. The top and bottom rims on the box are decorated with a band of yellow and green diamond shaped patterns. The footring has a simple yellow band with underglaze blue outlines. Inside the box, a round center partition is surrounded by eight painted *lingzhi* fungus motifs in various colors. There is a four centimeter glaze separation on the side of the center partition. Clear glaze with a yellow cast and slight wavy texture was applied on the interior of the lid and inside the footring. Centered underneath the box is a six-character underglaze blue Chinghua reign mark within a dual line circle. The lustrous glaze of this box is extremely silky to the touch.

A ceramic box in the same design with underglaze blue outlines was discovered at the official kiln site in Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province. It is possibly a half finished product for *doucai*. Please refer to plate 114 in *Imperial Porcelain Recent Discoveries of Jingdezhen Ware* published by Museum of Oriental Ceramics, Osaka, 1995. The same design can also be seen on the Zhengde box in this catalog.



大明成
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Ming dynasty, Jiajing period (1522–1566 AD)

[HFAC no.1599]

USD 3,000

2. 明萬曆 青花五彩龍鳳紋長方蓋盒

A *wucai* rectangular lidded box decorated with dragon and phoenix motifs

Ming dynasty, Wanli period (1573–1619 AD)

[HFAC no.2586]

USD 3,500

3. 明宣德 青花三友紋圓蓋盒

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Ming dynasty, Xuande period (1426–1435 BC)

[HFAC no.3490]

Price upon request

4. 明萬曆 青花五彩人物花果圓蓋盒

A *wucai* round lidded box painted with figures, flowering and fruiting branches

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