



CHINA
2000
FINE
ART

Ren Yi (任頤 1840–1896)

Ducks by the Pond 野塘雙鳧

1868 (dated Wuchen year 戊辰)

Ink and color on paper

Hanging scroll, 53.25 x 12.5 in. (135.5 x 31.7 cm)

Signed Ren Yi with one seal: Ren Yi Changshou

One collector's seal: Siming Tu shi zhencang



Inscription:

□□仁丈先生五十壽。戊辰初夏，任頤寫祝。

鈐印：任頤長壽

藏印：四明屠氏珍藏

註：本幅上款被挖。

The painting was presented to a gentleman (the name was removed) for his fiftieth birthday. Wuchen (1868) summer, Ren Yi painted (signature).

Ren Yi (任頤 1840-1896), also known as Ren Bonian (任伯年), was one of the most accomplished and influential Shanghai painters of the late nineteenth century. He produced a great deal of artwork, much of it figure painting. Ren was born in Shaoxing, Zhejiang province. He moved to Shanghai and worked at a fan store, where he met Ren Xiong and Ren Xun. The three Rens went to Suzhou to study painting. In 1868, he moved back to Shanghai to begin his career as a professional painter. With Ren Xiong (任熊 1820-1857), Ren Xun (任薰 1835-1893), and Ren Yu (任預 1853-1901) (son of Ren Xiong), they were named the "Four Rens"

