

# Basic Detail Report

## Title Living Legends Project: Qianshen Bai

Date 1994

Primary Maker Qianshen Bai

Medium Photography; color slides on plastic in cardboard mount

Description Slides of Qianshen Bai taken as part of the Living Legends exhibition project. Slides were photographed by Gale Zucker except (.20), which was taken by Phillip Fortune. 2015.196.145.1: Slide of Qianshen Bai holding calligraphy brush with ink 2015.196.145.2: Slide of Qianshen Bai, completed two characters 2015.196.145.3: Slide of Qianshen Bai carving seal 2015.196.145.4: Slide of Qianshen Bai applying oval seal 2015.196.145.5: Slide of stamped oval seal 2015.196.145.6: Slide of Qianshen Bai applying rectangular seal 2015.196.145.7: Slide of Qianshen Bai holding paper on table 2015.196.145.8: Slide showing vice-like wooden box used to hold seals while carving 2015.196.145.9: Slide showing Bai mixing pigment 2015.196.145.10: Slide of Qianshen Bai holding jar of pigment 2015.196.145.11: Slide of Qianshen Bai examining oval seal 2015.196.145.12: Slide of Qianshen Bai writing calligraphy in his workspace, distant view 2015.196.145.13: Slide of Qianshen Bai, seated at workspace, distant view 2015.196.145.14: Slide of photograph related to Bai, five people standing 2015.196.145.15: Slide of photograph showing Bai demonstrating calligraphy at a meeting of the student calligraphy association at Peking University, 1981 or 1982. 2015.196.145.16: Slide showing Bai trimming paper 2015.196.145.17: Slide showing Bai discussing a calligraphy artwork at the Yale

# Basic Detail Report

University Art Gallery. 2015.196.145.18: Slide showing Bai giving a talk with

ornamental box in hand, at the Yale University Art Gallery. 2015.196.145.19: Slide

showing Bai's calligraphy displayed during the Living Legends exhibit; Couplet, a

poem in two parts, written in calligraphy. Reading from right to left, it translates

as "The flowing water can be heard as music played by the earth. The beautiful

mountain must be seen as a painting." In many Chinese homes calligraphic

couplets hang in the center of the living room, with a painting in between. This

reflects the tradition dating back to the T'ang Dynasty of hanging carved peach

wood boards on either side of a gate to ward off sinister forces. 2015.196.145.20:

Slide showing seals and box displayed during the Living Legends exhibit: left

seal is "good luck" and right seal is "auspicious bird" 2015.196.145.21: Slide

showing Bai applying stamp to paper 2015.196.145.22: Slide showing Bai

holding newly carved seal 2015.196.145.23: Slide showing vice-like wooden box

used to hold seals while carving; seal with character for "self-amusement" on top