



Tenth Zhamar, Mipam Chodrup Gyatso (1742-1792)

Date

late 18th - 19th century

Medium

Pigments on silk

Description

In this powerful portrait all emphasis is placed on the teacher and his elaborate throne. They are set against an almost empty background, and the two other figures in the painting are tiny in comparison. A sense of space is achieved by a gradual fading of details as well as the shading of the clouds above the throne. The teacher and his throne are executed with exceptional attention to detail. The rich carving of his wooden throne also features fine gold work. The teacher's gaze, with frowning

eyebrows, skillfully resonates with the "face of glory" (center) and the dragons' heads (left and right) decorating his throne. This is a powerful portrait of the Tenth Shamarpa, Mipam Chodrup Gyatso (1742-1792). He wears the red hat (shamar) of his incarnation lineage and holds a vajra and bell in front of his chest. On the table in front of him further ritual implements are carefully laid out. Above the teacher there is a small image of the red Buddha Amitabha above a bank of clouds. In the foreground a kneeling monk holds a plate representing an offering of the universe with jewels and offerings to the five senses lined up in front of him.

Dimensions

34 5/8 x 25 5/8 x 2 1/4 in. (87.9 x 65.1 x 5.7 cm)