Collecting Chinese Art

Collecting Chinese paintings has been a real joy for us. We began to like Chinese painting when we lived in Manila and traveled a great deal in Asia. Since we have been in Phoenix, we have learned so much. Learning has been a major source of pleasure for us. We have had excellent teachers and advisors in Claudia Brown and Ju-hsi Chou, and, with them, have had a lot of fun collecting.

When we came to Phoenix in 1977, Marilyn joined the docent program at Phoenix Art Museum. Soon she started studying Chinese art in classes taught by Claudia Brown at the Museum. Roy became active in the Museum development program and was agreeable to Marilyn's suggestion that we buy a couple of Chinese paintings for our home. We were surprised to learn that you could only display them for a couple of months a year; the two paintings would have to be replaced every few months. Thus we began collecting Chinese art.

More than anything else, we enjoy sharing our collection. Everywhere the paintings have been shown, we have seen them in new ways and have seen the appreciation of others for them. Therefore, it gives us great pleasure to think of them as part of Phoenix Art Museum. We are also working out a plan to ensure their perpetual availability to students and faculty at Arizona State University. In this way, the collection will remain "alive " and useful.

We can never thank Claudia Brown and Ju-hsi Chou enough for giving us the opportunity for such a rewarding endeavor. We also thank Jim Ballinger, Janet Baker, and the Museum staff for their wonderful support.

Roy and Marilyn Papp