

Basic Detail Report



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Title Polychrome Tile Panel with Vase Motif

Date 17th century

Medium Ceramic, polychrome pigments

Description Eagles soar among swirling clouds and diving ducks, blue and turquoise songbirds perch among flowering branches, and a tiger pounces from within leafy foliage toward a pair of unfortunate ibex. This imagery captures a continuous theme in Iranian art: the hunt. Scenes of humans and animals hunting have been depicted in the arts of Iran since pre-Islamic times, appearing in stone carving and metal vessels of the Achaemenids and Sasanians. The motif of the hunt is called Gereft-o Gir (“catching and hunting”) in Persian. During the Safavid period (1501–1722 CE), artists of the court-sponsored workshops depicted hunting scenes that were shared across multiple forms of media. Gereft-o Gir was especially prominent in Safavid carpet design.

Dimensions Overall: 99 x 45 in. (251.5 x 114.3cm)