

Object Summary



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Pair of doors

19th - 20th century

Iran

Qajar

Wood/Carved and lacquered wood with cast metal hinges and knob

Overall (a): 78 5/8 x 25 x 1 7/16 in. (199.7 x 63.5 x 3.7cm) Other (b): 78 13/16 x 25 3/4 x 3 in. (200.2 x 65.4 x 7.6cm) Overall (each original door approx): 75 x 22 in. (190.5 x 55.9cm)

These doors were created during the Qajar dynasty evoking the style of the earlier Safavid period, which were painted with colorful scenes inspired by miniature paintings. Safavid court artists, such as the famous court painter, Reza Abbasi (d. 1635), were known for their vivid depictions of young people posed in idealized natural settings, relaxing, romancing, or enjoying picnics. This pair of doors is painted with colorful pigments and coated with resin varnish. Within each panel, medallions contain tiny scenes of richly dressed young men and women languishing in relaxed poses, partaking in food and wine — a metaphor for divine and earthly love.