

45. Kuei Fang (18th century)

“Chrysanthemums” 1772?

Fan painting, ink and color on gold-flecked paper

17.5 x 52.8 cm. (6 7/8 x 20 3/4 in.)

Inscription:

“During the third lunar month, spring of the year *renchen* (1772?), painted at the request of my elder brother -----, Gui Fang.”

Artist’s seal:

Gui Fang



Three groups of chrysanthemum blossoms are arranged so as to create a well-balanced composition. The red and yellow tinged flowers are provided with a pleasingly cool background by the green leaves. While not a major work by any means, the painting yet demonstrates the artist’s keen sense of design and his technical capabilities.

Although the artist is not recorded in standard biographical sources, and the date is thus not known for certain, the style of the painting suggests it was done during the later Qianlong era, perhaps by an artist following the Suzhou master Chen Shun.