

Editor. "10 Chinese Contemporary Artists You Need to Know." *Christie's – Asian Art | Collecting Guide*. September 5, 2017.

CHRISTIE'S

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Su Xiaobai (China, b. 1949), *Three Colours — Yin Bai*, 2013. 223 x 205 x 10 cm (87¾ x 80¾ x 3⅞ in). Estimate: CNY 800,000-1,600,000. This lot is offered in 20th Century & Contemporary Art (Evening Sale) on 24 September 2017 at Christie's in Shanghai

[Su Xiaobai](#)'s sculptural paintings are deceptively simple, at first sight resembling slabs of time-worn wood. But the illusion of age is in fact the result of a complex series of steps: the artist applies numerous layers of traditional Chinese lacquer over a shaped wooden base, treating the surface multiple times in order to produce the rich textures of the final product. A single colour thus becomes increasingly rich and mellow, while lacquer's natural thickness means that even as Su produces avant-garde works they still possess a rich sense of history.