

Xing Ren Xiang | Almond Fragrance

FLOATING MOUNTAIN - Mountain Top Tea Circle



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Single Tree Wulong

Description: Sweet and silky, this tea has gentle floral aroma, and long lasting aftertaste.

Region: Phoenix Mountains, Guangdong Province

Fun Fact: Almond Fragrance is one of the most complex tea for processing. The great mastery is required for a tea master to bring subtle aroma of the Almond Flowers to the tea.

Myth: Almond Fragrance wulong has nutty taste (like almond nuts).

Truth: The name is given for the flavor of the Almond Blossoms rather than nuts.

Brewing Tips: Gong Fu.

5 grams of tea to 100 ml of water. Clay pot, preferable of Chaozhou clay. Water 87-90 C | 188.6 - 195F

1st st. - 8 - 12 sec,

2nd st. - 5 - 8 sec,

3rd st. - 5-8 sec.,

4th st. - 8-10 st. and so on



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Who Says a Painting Must Look Like Life? (1087)

Written on paintings of flowering branches by Secretary Wang of Yen-ling.

Su Tung-p'o translated by Burton Watson

Who says a painting must look like life?
He sees only with children's eyes.
Who says a poem must stick to the theme?
Poetry is certainly lost on him.
Poetry and paintings share a single goal -
Clean freshness and effortless skill.
Pien Lian's sparrows live on paper;
Chao Ch'ang's flowers breath with soul.
But what are they beside these scrolls,
Bold sketches, with spirit in every stroke?
Who'd think one dot of red
Could call up a whole unbounded spring!



Written on the Wall at West Forest Temple (1084)

Su Tung-p'o, *translated by Burton Watson*

From the side, a whole range;
from the end, a single peak;

Far, near, high, low, no two parts
alike.

Why can't I tell the true shape of
Lu-shan?

Because I myself am in the
mountain.



Written on Abbot Lin's Wall at Mount Chiao (1074)

Su Tung-p'o, *translated by Burton Watson*

The Master stays on Mount Chiao,
(though in fact he's never "stayed"
anywhere).

No sooner had I arrived then I asked
about the Way,

But the Master never said a word.

Not that he was lost for words -

He saw no reason for replying.

Then I thought, Look at your head and
feet -

comfortable enough in hat and shoes,
aren't they?

It's like the man with a long bearded

But one day someone asked him,
"What do you do with it when you
sleep?"

That night, pulling up the covers,
He couldn't decide if it went on top or
under.

All night he tossed and turned,
wondering where to put it,

Till he felt like yanking it out by the
roots.

These words may seem trite and
shallow

But in fact they have deep meaning.

Presented to Abbot Ch'ang-tsung of the East Forest Temple (1084)

Su Tung-p'o, *translated by Burton Watson*

Voice of the valley stream - this is
his long broad tongue;

The color of the hills - is it not his
clean pure body?

Last night you mastered eighty-four
thousand verses;

Another day how will you explain
them to others?



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