

墨蘭

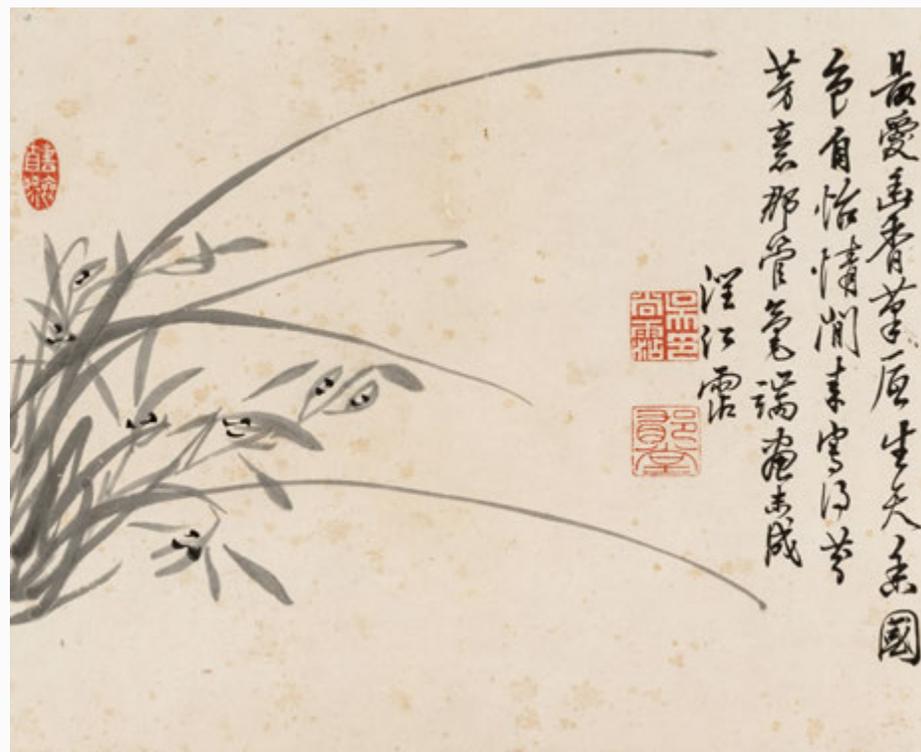
吳尚霽 WU Shang-Chan

墨色紙本 Ink on paper, 26X32cm X2, 1857

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※ 款文 | 最愛幽香筆底生，天香國色自怡情。閒來寫得芬芳意，那管毫端畫未成。潤江
霽。丁巳日，或堂，吳尚霽。



吳尚霽為謝琯樵的門生，亦是臺南吳園子弟的代表，以畫蘭出名。以蘭為題可謂蕙質蘭心、孤蘭生幽園，蘭花使人想起屈原《離騷》：「余既茲蘭之九畹兮，又樹蕙之百畹。」暗指高風亮節的君子、堅貞不二澹泊明志的意涵。且蘭花生長在深山幽谷，獨自在清幽處吐芬芳，經常用以象徵離群索居、潔身自愛的人。元代鄭思肖愛蘭，其作品《畫蘭》題詩：「純是君子，絕無小人，空山之中，以天為春。」

Wu Shang-Chan was a student of Hsieh Kuan-Chiao and a representative of the Wu Family Garden in Tainan, who became well known for his paintings of orchids. Indeed, depictions of orchids reference purity of heart and spirit, lonely orchids growing in a wild garden and also bring to mind Qu Yuan's *The Sorrow of Parting*: "Nine fields of orchids at one time I grew, for melilot a hundred acres too." In this instance, the flower alludes to men of noble character and unquestionable conduct, steadfast in allegiances, who live simply in pursuit of lofty goals. As orchids grow in deep mountain valleys, alone in quiet and beautiful areas surrounded by fragrance, they are often used to symbolize someone who forsakes society and lives alone to retain his scruples and self love. Yuan Dynasty poet and painter Zheng Si-Xiao (1241-1318) loved orchids and his work *Drawing of the Orchid* bears the inscription "It is simply a noble gentleman, with nothing of the scoundrel about it, a world apart from those secular individuals, yearning for the nation lost as spring is the heaven of the orchid."