



Having Once Paused: Poems of Zen Master Ikkyu (1394-1481) (Hardback)

By Ikkyu Sojun

The University of Michigan Press, United States, 2015. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. The influence of Zen Master Ikkyu? (1394-1481) permeates the full field of medieval Japanese aesthetics. Though best known as a poet, Ikkyu? was central to the shaping and reshaping of practices in calligraphy, Noh theater, tea ceremony, and rock gardening, all of which now define Japan s sense of its cultural tradition. A lifelong outsider to religious establishments, Ikkyu? nonetheless accepted an imperial command to rebuild his home temple, Daitoku-ji, destroyed in the civil wars. He died before that project was complete. Ikkyu? s work is allusion rich, and, as is common to his Tang poetic models, Ikkyu? s verse makes frequent allusion to elements from the full range of China s cultural history and literature. He draws as well from a variety of Buddhist texts in Chinese, including its koans. Two Chinese words- the dropping of rain or the King of Chu -may be sufficient to conjure a full account of drama, romance, enlightenment, or degradation. Ikkyu? simply assumes a readership as well educated as he. Faced with this richness, translators have generally chosen one of two solutions. Some have expanded Ikkyu?...



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