

# A M I R M O H T A S H E M I



## Iznik Dish

Ottoman Turkey, ca. 1580

Fritware painted with white slip and polychrome decoration under a clear glaze

31.2 cm diameter (to verify)

A shallow Iznik dish (*sahan*) with flat well and flanged rim, a form which emerged in ca. 1570.<sup>1</sup> On a ground of white slip, red carnations with snapped stems bloom from a tuft of grass at the bottom of the dish. Above that, two large blue saz leaves curve around. Floating above this, are spray of red prunus blossoms in a pot. The rim is decorated with a cobalt blue strip and overlapping white prunus blossoms.

A dish of similar form (diameter 34.6 cm) with comparable large saz leaves is in the Musée Ariana, Geneva (no. [AR 12192](#)), dated to ca. 1575. Another shallow dish, measuring 32 cm in diameter, is in the Musée de la Renaissance at Château Écouen (no. [E.CI.8390](#)). It is dated to ca. 1590. It also has two large blue saz leaves at the centre, flanked by carnations with broken stems.

[1] Atasoy, Nurhan, and Julian Raby. *Iznik: The Pottery of Ottoman Turkey*. 2nd edn. London: Alexandria Press, 1989, p. 38.