

GALERIE GOLCONDA

ARCHÉOLOGIE MUSÉALE
FOSSILES – BIJOUX RARES ET ANCIENS
CABINET DE CURIOSITÉS DES GRANDES CIVILISATIONS

CERTIFICATE

THREE COURT LADIES: THE GREAT CONVERSATION CHINA - TANG DYNASTY (AD 618-907)

MATERIAL AND TECHNIQUE: beautiful and rare set of three courtesans with generous curves moulded in terracotta and painted in orange and green.

Faces delicately drawn with a fine brush, the cheeks made up with an intense pink according to the taste of that time, and voluminous and eccentric buns. Ample dresses matched with small jackets and with wide floating sleeves covering the hands. All of them wear a slipper with a corolla on the right foot and a rounded, typical slipper with upturned toe on the left foot.

Excellent state of preservation however possible restoration as usual for terracotta. Ancient traces of earth still visible.

ORIGIN: At the beginning of the Tang period four concubines of high rank accompanied the Empress: the precious concubine, the pure, the virtuous and the wise one. This new way of representing the ladies of court as rather fat appears in 730 AD. Emperor Xuanzong's love for the concubine with ample curves, Yang Guifei, seems to have been at the origin of this metamorphosis in feminine representations. Following the hanging of the beautiful lady by his mutinous guards, he abdicated in 756, after 44 years of reign, bequeathing the power to his son Suzong.

DIMENSIONS: Lady A/ Height 47cm/18.5'' - Width: 16,5cm/6.496'' - Thickness 14,5cm/5.708''

Lady/B: Height: 45 cm/17.72'' - Width: 13,9cm/5.472'' - Thickness: 10cm/3.937''

Lady/C: Height: 43 cm/12.93'' - Width: 15cm/5.905'' - Thickness: 16,5cm/6.496''

THERMOLUMINESCENT TESTS by Ralph Kotalla laboratory: N°14G230210/
N°05G050710/ N°04G050710

CERTIFICATE: supplied with an export licence issued by the French Ministry of Culture Numb. 139189, allowing this piece to travel worldwide.

MUSEOGRAPHY: a very attractive lady of this type is exhibited at the Musée Guimet in Paris in Jacques Polain Collection inv. MY 6106.

Police book registration N°: 1136.A.B.C