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FOSSILES – BIJOUX RARES ET ANCIENS
CABINET DE CURIOSITÉ DES GRANDES CIVILISATIONS

CERTIFICATE

« PAN » FOOTED BOWL CHINA - ZHOU DYNASTY (1100 - 256 BC)

MATERIAL AND METHOD: « pan » bowl in bronze with a pedestal showing original crusted bright green patina with visible traces of cuprite. Decoration known as « *Leiwen* », also called the « Thunder Character ». The right-angled spiral pattern on the lower part of the neck symbolizes lightening and is separated by two parallel lines of the upper portion that is devoid of decoration. The same set of integrated spiral lines in circles is inscribed in the flat centre of the bowl. The neck is perforated with two large slots. These vessels are generally sunk upside down around compacted earth. Terracotta segments are placed around to constitute a hollow mould with decorative themes. The metal is melted at a temperature of over one thousand degrees and is placed in the free space between the core and the mould, while the air escapes through vents. Once the piece is cooled, the mould is disassembled and the barbs that mark the intersections between the two segments are levelled.

ORIGIN: from the 17th century BC to the Han period, nobility used the rare and precious bronze for the fabrication of ritual funerary vessels. Each bronze recipient was called with specific names according to their usage, some being attested by epigraphy. This classification and rediscovery was the result of the work of Chinese historians and aesthetes from the Song era up to the 10th century.

MEASUREMENTS: Height: 20.5 cm (7.8") - Width: 25 cm (9.8")

CULTURAL PASSPORT issued by the French Ministry of culture. Passport n° 171351.

Police book registration N°: 1609