

GALERIE GOLCONDA

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

CERTIFICATE

EXCELLENT PARADE HORSE WEI DYNASTY (AD 386-589)

MATERIAL AND TECHNIQUE: The horse is made of moulded terracotta covered with a brownish grey slip then decorated with polychromatic details. Standing with an attitude characteristic of the period, the animal looks spruce on its very thin legs, the head leaning. The trappings are superbly detailed and the saddle is richly decorated with two fins as mudguard placed on the sides. The head is beautifully decorated with a crest and a crupper bearing cabochons made of trimmings, an habit of that time.

Possible ancient repairs, but however excellent state of preservation.

ORIGIN: The heavily harnessed parade horse shows the preponderant place dedicated to the animal in ancient Chinese society. After the Han dynasty it evolved toward a sublimated image. The elegance of the silhouette became very important, the head stretching out, narrow and hooked with short ears. The back is arched with a sharp ridge. The tail and the hooves are nicely depicted. The Northern Wei unified the country from Mongolia to the central Chinese plains and reopened the Silk Road. This brought great prosperity to the country and the contact with Byzantine and Persian cultures permitted the introduction of Arab horses unknown until then.

DIMENSIONS: Height: 34 cm /13,38 in - Length: 24 cm/9,448 in

THERMOLUMINESCENT TEST: N° 15k110506 from Kotalla laboratory which confirms the dating.

EXPORT LICENCE: supplied with an export licence issued by the French Ministry of Culture number 101009, allowing this piece to travel worldwide.

BIBLIOGRAPHY : published in "Collecting Masterpieces" Part one by Beryl Cavallini page 209

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