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

CERTIFICATE

AN IMPERIAL BRONZE OIL LAMP IMPERIAL ROMA (AD 100/200)

MATERIAL AND TECHNIQUE: A very fine oil lamp of a big size, in cast bronze with two grooved spouts allowing for a double wick. Hinged cover in the form of a scallop shell. Flat rims, two volutes on each side below the two nozzles both with air-slits, rising curved grip at the rear of the lamp. The lamp stands on a ring base with a disc forming the bottom of the oil chamber.

Very nice old patina on the bronze.

ORIGIN: Oil lamps were used in homes and public areas as well as in temples or during funerary rituals. The oil used could vary depending on the period and intended use. During rituals, particular oils could be requested, as well as selected fragrances. Egyptians used castor oil, while Romans preferred fish or olive oil. The large size and elegance of this piece confirms the certainly important provenance and function.

DIMENSIONS: Height: 7cm/ 2.75 " - Width: 26.5cm/ 10.43" - Thickness: 7,5cm/ 2,952"

PROVENANCE: This bronze oil lamp is a collector's piece from an old english collection.

MUSEOGRAPHY: The Archeological Museum of Naples, Italy, presents a similar object with a declared Roman - Egyptian provenance. A comparable lamp is also exhibited at Le Louvre, inv. Br 3135 and Br 3136, Sully, 1st floor, hall 33. The other one is presented at the British Museum in London, under the N°1926-0216.3.

CERTIFICATE: supplied with an export licence issued by the French Ministry of Culture, numb. 147688.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: published in Collecting Masterpieces Part One, by Beryl Cavallini at pages 224/225

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