

GALERIE GOLCONDA

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

CERTIFICATE

BLACK VARNISH GUTTUS WITH HEAD OF A MENADE APULIA (4th – 1st cent. BC)

MATERIAL AND TECHNIQUE: Calene type guttus. Beige terracotta painted black. Rounded body that is flat on the top and foot. Handle and spout arranged at right angles to one another on the body of the piece. Moulded stripes around the belly and central medallion on the flat section decorated with the head of a menade that has radiating curly hair.

This piece is well preserved with probable restorations.

ORIGIN: *Guttus* (plural *Gutti*, from *gutta* meaning the drop in Latin) are referred to as a family of vessels belonging to the ceramic art of the Greeks. They generally originate from the Greek colonies of southern Italy, where an important production developed between the 5th and 3rd centuries BC. Their exact function remains unknown: perhaps used either to fill oil lamps or in baths to spread perfumed oils on the body. These vases have characteristic long narrow necks which allowed for liquid to be poured drop by drop, “*guttatim*” in Latin.

DIMENSIONS: Height: 8.5 cm (3.3”)–Length: 12.5 cm (4.9”)–Diameter: 10 cm (3.9”)

TEST OF THERMOLUMINESCENCE performed by the QED Laboratory, which confirms the dating of this piece. Test n° QED1336/FG-0129

MUSEOGRAPHY: a similar piece is exhibited at the MET, New York, in gallery 171, Accession n° 41.162.231.

Police book registration N°: 1384