

GALERIE GOLCONDA

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

CERTIFICATE

GUTTUS WITH PORTRAIT OF ATHENA

APULIA (4th- 3rd century BC)

MATERIAL AND TECHNIQUE: guttus of a Calene style. In an orangey terracotta that has been varnished black, decorated with a portrait of a helmeted Athena, a medallion in its centre is moulded in relief. The rounded body is gadrooned, resting on a wide foot. It is equipped with a handle on its top section and a very elongated spout.

ORIGIN: *Guttus* (plural *Gutti*, from *gutta*: 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 neck which allowed for liquid to be poured drop by drop, “*guttatim*” in Latin. Good state of preservation, small gaps on the lip of the spout, likely to have undergone old restorations.

DIMENSIONS: Height: 15 cm (5.9’’) - Diameter: 12 cm (4.7’’) - Length: 13.5 cm (5.3 ’’)

MUSEOGRAPHY: a similar piece is exhibited at:

- the MET in New York, in gallery 171, in the department of ‘Greek and Roman Art’, accession n°06.1021.271.
- in the archeological collection of the Fondation Calet of the Musée Lapidaire in Avignon, inventory n° C44 / legs 1810.

TEST OF THERMOLUMINESCENCE: performed by QED Laboratory, which confirms the dating of this piece. Test N° n°QED1634/FG-0109.

Police book registration N°: 1387