

# GALERIE GOLCONDA

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

## CERTIFICATE

### **IMPRESSIVE GENTLE HORSE DRINKING TANG DYNASTY (AD 618-907)**

**MATERIAL AND TECHNIQUE:** horse of a big size, in moulded beige terracotta covered with a white to brownish slip. Nice traces of an ancient polychromatic decoration: the saddle is orange and the harness is painted in brown. The horse has the four legs fixed on a terrace. Shown while drinking, the mouth is open and the tongue visible. Overall great elegance of the animal, the tail plaited as was done for the animals belonging to the nobility. Some scratches and signs of age and excavation, traces of soil. Overall very good condition. Some possible ancient repairs.

**ORIGIN:** Following the tradition of their Han ancestors the Tang emperors continued to import racehorses from outside China. Most of them were used for war, but the most beautiful were kept for parades. From the 7<sup>th</sup> century on, the breeding of the horses would become of a great importance, as it permitted the deployment of thousands of horses during battles. This helped the Tang army to reach a great superiority as the Tang army is believed to hold 700 000 horses in AD 650.

**DIMENSIONS:** Height: 46cm / 18.11'' - Length: 56cm / 22.05'' - Width: 20cm/7,87''

**THERMOLUMINESCENT TEST:** supplied with a thermo luminescent test by laboratory Kotalla. Test N°13G170913.

**EXPORT LICENCE:** supplied with a Cultural Passport issued by the French Ministry of Culture Number 174716, allowing this piece to travel worldwide.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:** published in "*Collecting Masterpieces*" Part One, written by Beryl Cavallini at pages 100/101

Police book registration N°: 1489