

# GALERIE GOLCONDA

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

## CERTIFICATE

### **HUAN 'XIN TONG HUAN' PENDANT IN JADE CHINA - ARCHAIC DYNASTIES (ca. 1200 - 3rd century B.C.)**

**MATERIAL AND METHOD :** Huan pendant in nephrite jade. Consisting of three concentric ellipses connected to one another by four symmetrical points.

**ORIGIN :** In ancient China the 'Xin Tong Huan' perforated disc pendant was a symbol of the heavens, an astrological Taoist symbol consisting of three concentric ellipses.

The artistry of jade came in subtle forms from neolithic cultures stretching from the mouth of the Yangtze (Liangzhu Culture) to Southeastern Mongolia. This very hard stone is cut following pure geometrical forms, often with harmoniously placed motifs and perfect finishings. The working of this material could only be done by methods of friction, abrasion and polishing. The composite material of jade, which is by nature extremely hard, was clearly chosen based on its symbolic value of purity and its association with hardness, as well as various other values unique to the Chinese culture. Cultures which followed valued jade for its attributed property of protecting the body on its journey to the world of our ancestors, eventually to sit amongst the immortals.

**MEASUREMENT :** Diameter : 9 cm

**MUSEOGRAPHY:** A similar object is exhibited at Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington-USA, under number F1919.13.

Another similar object is exhibited at Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington-USA, under number F1944.4.

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