

GALERIE GOLCONDA

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

CERTIFICATE

‘GU’ SHAPED VASE IN BRONZE

CHINA - ARCHAIC DYNASTIES (between 1600 and 1050 B.C.)

MATERIAL AND METHOD: double tulip shaped vase also called ‘*gu*’ casted in silvered bronze. The bronze is covered with a beautiful light patina. The stylised images of clouds and geometric shapes are depicted in stacked rows at the base of the vase. ‘*Gu*’ vases were used to drink wine and other fermented beverages during the funerary rituals of the aristocracy in ancient China.

Very fine condition.

ORIGIN: The period of Archaic dynasties in China is characterised by the appearance of the art of metallurgy, an art which requires a perfect mastery of bronze. The shapes could be very simple, as depicted here, as well as with extremely complex designs. The bronzes were placed in more or less large quantities in graves, depending on the social status of the deceased. They also accompanied those who were going to be killed or sacrificed to the afterlife. These cruel practices were eventually phased out under the Zhou, with immolations being gradually replaced by figurines and models of buildings in painted or glazed earthenware. Bronze was a noble material in Chinese civilization as it drew the attention of talented artists who devoted much ingenuity and skill to this material. It was considered in ancient times more important than gold.

MEASUREMENT: Height 24,5 cm (9.6 ")

EXPORT LICENCE: supplied with a Passeport culturel issued by the French Ministry of Culture numb. 200332

Police book registration n°: 1714