

# GALERIE GOLCONDA

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

## CERTIFICATE

### **WOMAN STUCCO MASK**

**ANCIENT EGYPT, ROMAN PERIOD (1st Cent. BC - AD 1st Cent.)**

**MATERIAL AND TECHNIQUE:** Feminine mask in ivory-coloured, fine grain stucco. The inlaid eyes are of molten glass; the open black pupil and the slightly cross-eyed look were the custom for representing beauty. The canons of beauty are clearly Greek: aquiline nose, well curved eyebrows, slightly smiling lips and dimple in the chin. Hollow inside, this mask recalls Hellenistic sculpture with its perfect oval shape and its high ears. The subject wears an impressive hairstyle of curls on which traces of black polychromy are still visible. It was the custom that the face is also painted. The stucco was cast in successive layers into a mould then the various parts were assembled after turning it out.

**ORIGIN:** This mask replaces, in the Ptolemaic and Roman period, the pharaonic mask of previous times. The production of this type of object in stucco being in series, the hairstyle and the jewels allowed the object to resemble perfectly. The Book of the Dead reminds us that the funeral mask constituted an essential element of the protection of the head of the deceased, each part of which was identified with a divinity

**DIMENSIONS:** Height without the base: 20 cm/7,87874'' – Length : 18 cm/7,086'' -

Width: 15cm/5,905'' - Height including the base: 27 cm/10,629''

**CERTIFICATE:** supplied with an export licence issued by the French Ministry of Culture Number 101008.

**MUSEOGRAPHY:** similar pieces are exhibited in the Egyptian Cairo Museum, first floor - section 14 and in the Musée du Louvre inv. E 27152, MH 16, gift from Mr. Marquet in 1976.

**EXPOSITION :** Exposé au Musée National de la ville de Montélimar (France), « Les masques entre miniature et démesure », mai/septembre 2014.

Publié au catalogue et en 4<sup>e</sup> de couverture.

**PASSEPORT CULTUREL** délivré par le Ministère français de la Culture, n°101008.

**BIBLIOGRAPHIE :** publié dans « *collecting Masterpieces* », Part one, de Beryl Cavallini, pages 178 et 179.

Police book registration N°: 175