

GALERIE GOLCONDA

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

CERTIFICATE

BLUE AND WHITE PORCELAIN JAR CHINA – MING DYNASTY (1368 - 1644)

Ex METROPOLITAN MUSEUM COLLECTION

MATERIAL AND TECHNIQUE: large baluster shaped porcelain jar with a swollen body and covered with a transparent glaze. Cobalt blue motifs are placed on a white background. The motifs include chrysanthemums and butterflies in the middle of bamboos drawn inside cartridges with dense blue geometric patterns. The shoulder is decorated with a wan pattern and has four lions in relief near the collar.

ORIGIN: the Ming dynasty is generally considered as the golden age of Chinese porcelain. Until that time, the blue colour achieved from cobalt was imported from the Middle East, while China was trading with the Islamic world. At the beginning of the Ming dynasty, however, they discovered cobalt in China, which contained little manganese and had less of a brilliant colour. The fact that a very similar jar was found at the Topkapi Museum in Istanbul suggests that it was a product created for export in the Jingdezhen kilns.

DIMENSIONS: Height: 26 cm (10.2")

PROVENANCE: Ex. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, acquisition in 1919, Rogers funds. Jacob S. Rogers, an industrialist who made his fortune in the locomotive industry, left a large portion of his fortune to the Metropolitan Museum in 1901. It is thanks to this considerable contribution that the Metropolitan Museum acquired many objects, and financed archaeological expeditions, most notably in Egypt.

MUSEOGRAPHY: the creation of the department of "far eastern art" dates from 1915. A very similar jar is published in Chinese ceramics in the Topkapi Saray Museum, R. Krahl, vol II, London, 1986 p. 778 num. 492 or dates from the end of the 16th / early 17th century.

Police book registration N°: 1826