

GALERIE GOLCONDA

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

CERTIFICATE

WATCHTOWER CHINA - HAN DYNASTY (206 B.C. – A.D. 220)

MATERIAL AND TECHNIQUE: This architectural model is made of terra cotta and covered with a lead glaze whose colour is due to copper oxide. It is composed of three different elements moulded and assembled freely. As a consequence of the time it has spent in the tomb, it has been superficially covered with a very thin deposit of limestone, giving this piece its beautiful iridescent silver look. The base is composed of a circular basin with flat rim. The superstructure is piled up on it vertically.

Very fine condition. Possible ancient repair.

ORIGIN: Ancient China. These towers were used in strategic areas, the top floor being the best place for observers. The platform underneath with its corbelled balcony was used for defensive purposes, and archers were posted at the corners. On the base, a symbolic aquatic bestiary of water is represented with ducks, frogs and fish. These towers have a very strong emblematic significance, which would later be used in the creation of pagodas.

MEASUREMENTS: Height: 98,5 cm (38.7")

THERMOLUMINESCENT TEST performed by the Ralf Kotalla Laboratory which confirms the dating of this piece. Test n° 01k201005.

CULTURAL PASSPORT: supplied with an export licence issued by the French Ministry of Culture number 188266, allowing this piece to travel worldwide.

Police book registration N°: 482