

GALERIE GOLCONDA

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

CERTIFICATE

MUMMY MASK IN FAIENCE BEADS ANCIENT EGYPT – (1080-400 B.C.)

MATERIAL AND METHOD: mask composed of tubular faience beads known as *fritte* in green, red, beige and dark blue, which was placed on the face of the mummy as adornment. It was not uncommon that these faces be connected to strings of pearls to which amulets would be added. The pale turquoise symbolizes the colour of the sky, but also the colour of the flesh of the gods. It refers to the colour of the Nile.

A perfect state of preservation. The beads have been restrung.

ORIGIN: funerary masks would sometimes be placed on the head of the mummy as protection, but primarily to assist the spirit of the deceased *Ba*, to reclaim his body after the journey. The traits of the deceased are idealized and stylized, representing what he or she wished to resemble in the hereafter.

MEASUREMENTS: Length: 13.5 cm (5.3") - Height: 10.5 cm (4.1")

MUSEOGRAPHY: similar masks can be found at the Egyptian Museum of Cairo and Musée du Louvre in Paris.

Police book registration N°: 644