

GALERIE GOLCONDA

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

CERTIFICATE

IMPRESIVE “XING” FLASK PILGRIM BOTTLE LIAO DYNASTY/ NORTHERN SONG DYNASTY (AD 907 - 1125)

MATERIAL AND TECHNIQUE: rare large-sized flask covered with a thick white slip called *ting*. Boldly potted shape typical of leather flasks, with an embossed outline suggesting seams applied on the sides. Handle on the flattened top of the flask attached to the narrow and short upright spout in order to receive a stopper made either of cork or wood.

Covered overall in a rich whiteglaze, with an unglazed foot revealing the white body.

Good state of preservation overall. An ancient repair to fix the handle on and a very thin horizontal line on the body.

ORIGIN: The Liao dynasty, placed between the Tang and the Song, actually came from the Khitan people, a non-Han population composed of 8 nomad tribes. They encompassed the Beijing area as well as Mongolia and Manchuria and had their own language with two scripts of their own. Once converted to Buddhism they adopted the name of Liao in order to present themselves to the Chinese people. The ceramic of that time remains unsurpassed for the purity of the design, the beauty of the colours of the slip, usually monochromatic, and the realism closely related to some habits of the nomad tradition.

DIMENSIONS: Height: 35 cm / 13,77” - Length: 28 cm / 11.0236”

EXPORT LICENCE: supplied with a cultural passport issued by the French Ministry of Culture number 147918.

TEST: supplied with a thermoluminescent test by Qed laboratory. Test n° QED1546/FC-0104

MUSEOGRAPHY: A similar object is exhibited at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, under the name “Pilgrim bottle” reference 76.72.32 dated 960/1127

- A similar object as sold at Sotheby’s New York on the 23 march 2011 for 98,500 USD against an estimate of 80,000/120,000 USD

BIBLIOGRAPHIE : « Bright as silver, White as snow, White wares from North and South China », Hong Kong 1998 pp 15-24. Regina Krahl explains the beauty and rarity of this kind of vases.

Police book registration N°: 963