



PROANTIC
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Etruscan Art - Great Haruspice - Archaeological Souvenir - Grand Tour - Anticomania - 19th Century



420 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Description

Visible in Paris. Free hand delivery in the capital and its suburbs. Postage for France: 15EUR.
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Haruspice holding a snake
Bronze with excavation patina
probably Italian workshop
Second half of the 19th century
H. 45 cm.

This bronze is superb for its finesse and its stretched treatment. The haruspice stands on a four-legged base. Its spindly body is synthetically depicted, with slight details of the feet and face in particular. It is a remake of a well-known model housed at the Getty.

Dealer

Galerie Vendémiaire

Néoclassicisme, provenances, objets d'art, décoration et curiosités

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The role of the Haruspice in Etruscan society

The haruspices of Etruria were distinguished

from the rest of the population by their costume:

they wore a short coat edged with fringes (similar

to the skin of the sacrificed beast), rather than the

Etruscan toga, fastened by a fibula at the neck,

and a broad-brimmed headdress with a pointed

top, tied under the chin because it was a very bad

omen if it fell off during the ceremonies and,

above all, they wore their libri (as can be seen on

the figurative sarcophagi of deceased haruspices).

It seems that they were recruited from the upper

classes of society.

Among the Etruscans, the "lightning haruspices"

practised their divinatory art, called brontoscopy,

on lightning and thunder.

They continued to play an important advisory role

even after Etruria was annexed by the Romans.

Condition report: excellent