



Massive Gold Ring With An Intaglio Of An Imperial Eagle. Roman, 3rd Century Ad.



20 000 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Gold

Description

A massive ancient gold ring with a nicolo intaglio of an imperial eagle.

Roman, 3rd century AD.

Ring size approximately R UK / 8.5 US.

Weighs 28.4 grams.

The intaglio measures 1.3 x 1cm.

The ring measures overall 3.5 x 2.5 x 1.7cm.

The ancient gold ring is solid, architectural in form with carved scrolls and gadrooning. The ring is set with a nicolo intaglio of an eagle, stood upon a ground line with a laurel wreath clutched

Dealer

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in its beak. As heavy gold jewellery was reserved exclusively for important dignitaries, the ring was made for a person that desired to show their support for the emperor by displaying the image of the imperial eagle.

The eagle was a symbol of imperial power in ancient Rome, representing courage, strength, and immortality. It was also featured on the standard of the Roman Legions, carried into battle by the Aquilifer, a highly prestigious position in the Roman army.

Provenance: Private English Collection.

A similar example set with a banded agate can be found in the collection of the British Museum, registration number: 1917,0501.802, see also 1917,0501.801 and 1917,0501.536.

https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/G_1917-0501-802

https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/G_1917-0501-801

https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/G_1917-0501-536

The Musée du Louvre has in its collection a comparable ring set with a nicolo intaglio, numéro catalogue : Bj 1286, see also Bj 1287 and Bj 1288.

<https://collections.louvre.fr/ark:/53355/cl010255837>

<https://collections.louvre.fr/ark:/53355/cl010255838>

<https://collections.louvre.fr/ark:/53355/cl010255839>

Another comparable ring can be found in the

collection of the Art Institute of Chicago,
Reference Number 2013.1105.

<https://www.artic.edu/artworks/203700/finger-ring-with-intaglio-depicting-eros>

<https://www.proantic.com/en/1453475-massive-gold-ring-with-an-intaglio-of-an-imperial-eagle-roman-3rd-century-ad.html>