



Artifact - Antiquity - Terracotta Oil Lamp With Pecten Shell Decor - Roman Empire

95 EUR



Period : Before 16th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Terracotta

Description

Period: Last third of the 1st century AD Origin: Mediterranean (Probably Italy or Roman provinces) Provenance: Private collection, Auvergne - Puy-de-Dôme A lamp with a pointed spout and double volutes - A precise typological model This Roman terracotta oil lamp, classified as Type Bussière B III 2 b and Loeschcke IV, is a well-identified model in the typology of antique lamps. Its decoration is centered on a pecten shell, an emblematic motif often associated with maritime and funerary beliefs, symbolizing the passage between the world of the living and that of the dead. It has a structure typical of lamps with a long pointed spout, with two double volutes continuing under the spout, a flat band and a circular reservoir with a biconvex profile. The absence of a handle and the presence of a

Dealer

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cupped disk delimited by three concentric grooves confirm its belonging to the productions of the 1st century AD. Description o Material: Molded terracotta o Shape: Lamp with an ogival spout with double volutes, without handle o Decoration: Pecten shell in relief on the central disk, surrounded by concentric grooves o Base: Circular and slightly raised, delimited by a groove State of preservation o Fragmentary in situ, broken and reglued o Visible losses, particularly at the level of the spout and the upper wall Symbolism and use in Antiquity Roman lamps were not only functional objects: they played a role in religious and funerary rituals. o The pecten shell, associated with the cults of Neptune (Poseidon), evokes travel, protection and the transition to the afterlife. o This type of lamp was frequently used in homes, temples and necropolises, serving for lighting but also for votive and funerary practices. Dimensions o Length: 11 cm Bibliography consulted o Bussière, Rivel (2012): *Antique Lamps of the Mediterranean. The Rivel Collection*, Oxford. o Chrzanowski (2006): *Light! Lighting in Antiquity*, Milan. o Bussière (2000): *Antique Lamps of Algeria*, Montagnac. o Robin Petitot (2000): *Catalogue of Greek and Roman Lamps in the Museum of Ancient Arles*, Arles. o Bailey (1980): *A Catalogue of the Lamps in the British Museum, II. Roman Lamps made in Italy*, London. o Deneauve (1969): *Lamps of Carthage*, Paris. o Loeschcke (1919): *Lampen aus Vindonissa*, Zurich. o Dressel (1899): *Lucernae formae*, in CIL XV, II, 1, Berlin. ALL DELIVERIES ARE MADE BY DHL EXPRESS ONLY.