China - Large Ding Terracotta Vase - Han Dynasty - Tl



3 500 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Terracotta

Diameter : 33 cm

Height : 29 cm

Description

Large terracotta Ding tripod vase characterized by its imposing and elegant form, supported by three sturdy feet. The body of the vase is cylindrical in shape with two small, slightly curved vertical handles. The lid is topped with three stylized protrusions that act as feet when the lid is inverted to serve as a bowl. This vase is typically symmetrical, its silhouette reflecting harmony and stability, essential values in ancient Chinese art. The feet themselves are designed to offer the piece maximum stability, emphasizing its importance in the rituals of the time. The vase, although primarily intended for funerary rituals, also reflects aesthetic concerns with a perfectly balanced form and ideal proportions. Due to the use of terracotta, the piece has a patina imitating the bronze typical of ancient objects, which gives

Dealer

Galerie Raoul Dutillieul
Arts Asiatiques et Porcelaines de Tournai
Mobile : +32 474 472 168

24,Rue des Chapeliers
Tournai 7500

it a particular charm. A thermoluminescence test accompanies the object certifying its ancient dating. Origin: China. Period: Late Warring States period or early Han period (3rd-2nd century BC). Thermoluminescence test. Dimensions: Height: 29 cm; Diameter: 33 cm. Condition: Good condition, some usual restorations. The ding is often associated with rituals of sacrifice and ancestor worship and symbolized imperial authority and prosperity. Traditionally made of bronze, the terracotta ding, such as this one, was part of the funerary objects called mingqi, placed in tombs to accompany the deceased to the afterlife. These objects were intended to ensure the spiritual and material protection of the deceased in the afterlife. During the Han Dynasty, the use of terracotta for the production of these vessels became widespread, allowing for the creation of accessible versions compared to the more expensive bronze pieces. These tripod vases not only have a ritual function, but they also bear witness to the advancement of terracotta manufacturing techniques and the refinement of the artists of the time.