



## Sunga Shunga 1 Sec Bc



2 300 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Restauré

Material : Ivory

Width : 3,5

Height : 6

### Description

Carved ivory from India's Sunga period is relatively rare. Sculptural objects from this period typically are of molded terracotta or stone. This small image shows a figure sitting with a pot belly on a low platform with a pearly border, and with a variety of necklaces, earrings, anklets, bracelets and a waistband. The face is clear and well carved. The figure wears a hat or large cushion-like hairpiece. The composition is typically Sunga. The piece has the smooth patina that might be expected of a piece of ivory more than 2,000 years old. It is has a golden-brown colour.

### Dealer

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The Sunga (or Shunga) empire was a royal dynasty that controlled much of the eastern part of the Indian sub-continent from around 185 BC to 73 BC. It was founded by Pusyamitra Sunga, the commander-in-chief of the last Mauryan ruler, whom he assassinated. Sunga ruled for 36 years. The Empire's main capital was at Pataliputra. Hinduism was the state religion. Education and the arts flowered during the period. Terracotta images, larger stone sculptures and various important architectural monuments survive as testaments to this. The Sungas were succeeded by the Kanya dynasty around 73 BC.