



## Chinese Malachite Budai, Circa 1950



350 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Semi precious stone

Width : cm. 11.3

Height : cm. 9.3

Depth : cm. 5.5

### Description

Chinese Malachite Budai, circa 1950, is a splendid sculpture of Budai, often called the 'Laughing Buddha', carved from a very special mineral called malachite.<sup>1</sup> The Material: Malachite The most striking feature is its intense green colour with circular and concentric veins. Malachite is a copper carbonate hydroxide mineral. 'Eye' Patterns: The circles you see on the belly and chest are typical of the natural growth of malachite. Symbolism: In many cultures, malachite is considered a stone of transformation and protection, which fits perfectly with the positive energy of Buddha.<sup>2</sup> The Subject: Budai (The Laughing Buddha) Although commonly referred to as "Buddha", this figure is actually inspired by a 10th-century Chinese monk named Qieci. Meaning: He represents happiness,

### Dealer

#### Antiquités Ghilli

Lighting, Paintings, Furniture, Sculptures

Tel : +39 0270635993

Mobile : +39 339 4379271

Fax : +39 02 84540237

Via A. M. Ampere 55

Milano 20131

contentment and abundance. His large belly is said to hold fortune and wealth. The Sack: He is seen holding a canvas sack which, according to tradition, is never empty and is full of gifts and food for the poor and children.<sup>3</sup> The Base The statuette rests on a carved wooden base (probably rosewood or zitan) with delicate silver wire inlays. The decorative motifs often resemble "clouds" or the "Ruyi" symbol, which means "as you wish".