



Chinese Sculpture Of A Warrior With A Sword, The God Zhong Kui Shoki, Terracotta, 19th Century



650 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Width : max 24,5 cm

Height : 53,5 cm

Description

Large patinated terracotta Chinese sculpture depicting a fierce-looking bearded warrior holding his sword, representing the deity Zhong Kui*, the demon slayer (Shoki in Japanese), dating from the 19th century. This sculpture is in good condition and of remarkable quality.

Polychrome and gilt decoration adorns the sword, belt, and feet. Note: slight scratches and wear to the patina, see photos. *Zhong Kui (Korean: Jong Gyu; Japanese: Shoki; Vietnamese: Chung Quy) is a legendary figure in Chinese culture, renowned for warding off ghosts and demons. In Taoism, he is venerated as a protective and exorcist deity (often called Zhong Kui ye, "Lord Zhong Kui") and sometimes appears among the gods of gates. His image is displayed to ward off evil influences, particularly around the Lunar

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New Year and the Dragon Boat Festival

(Duanwu). He is often depicted in Japanese art (Shoki) as a bearded scholar, armed with a long sword and sometimes wearing a wide-brimmed hat. This hero fights and slays oni (demons). In Taiwan and southern Fujian, at the end of certain Ghost Festival ceremonies, a Taoist master (daoshi) or an actor portraying Zhong Kui is sometimes asked to perform the "Zhong Kui Dance" to drive away evil spirits. The iconography became standardized during the Tang dynasty: an angry face, a thick black beard, bulging eyes, a flowing robe (often red), high boots, and a sword in hand. He is frequently surrounded by a procession of small demons that he leads or subdues. It is sometimes seen with the "five bats" (wufu) motif, a symbol of the five blessings. Dimensions: Height 53.5 cm, Maximum width 24.5 cm. G20 67. All photos are available at: www.antiques-delaval.com