



## Two Sculptures Of Chinese Servants, Ming Dynasty (1368-1644)



420 EUR

Period : 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Terracotta

Height : 24,50cm

### Description

These figurines were traditionally part of a funeral procession, announcing the arrival of the deceased in the afterlife. These terracotta figurines were intended as funeral offerings. It was believed that they would serve and assist the deceased in the afterlife. Figurines of this type are called mingqi in Chinese, and often depict servants, soldiers, musicians, dancers and various animals. Just as in life, servant figurines were expected to stay close to their master, ready to fulfill the wishes and needs of the deceased. Both figurines wear a traditional robe with wide sleeves crossed over the chest, characteristic of the costume of Ming-period servants or officials. The robes are decorated with rich lead enamel in classic sancai colors: deep emerald green and warm ochre yellow. The characteristic faces and

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conical hats have been left unglazed, indicating the initial presence of cold polychrome paint, tiny traces of which are still visible. The figurines are in a condition consistent with their age and archaeological provenance. The glaze shows fine crackling and slight weathering, contributing to the authentic appearance of the pieces. Based on the technique used, these figurines can be dated between the 15th and 16th centuries.