



Fragment Au Dragon - Dynastie Ming - Période Xuande - Or 22 Carats

11 000 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Gold

Length : 13,6 cm



Description

This piece of court goldwork is a rare testament to the splendor of the Ming Dynasty, specifically from the Xuande period (1425-1435). This reign is universally recognized as the golden age of precious metalwork in China. Expertise and Provenance: This object has been authenticated by the specialists at Sotheby's (Important Chinese Art). This prestigious pedigree guarantees not only the authenticity of the piece but also its historical significance on the international Asian art market. Technical Description: Metal: Solid 22-karat gold, 19.80 g (Fineness 916/1000). The extremely high fineness confirms a commission intended for the imperial family or the highest aristocracy. Metalwork: Executed using a reticulated (openwork) technique. The gold lace structure is achieved through millimeter-precise

Dealer

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cutting, complemented by repoussé and cold chasing for the anatomical details. Symbolic Analysis: The Imperial Dragon: Absolute master of the heavens, it is depicted with nervous energy and sovereign power. Its scales, mane, and sharp claws amidst stylized clouds symbolize authority and vital force. The Shishi (Guardian Lion / Foo Dog): At the end of the fragment is a protective lion mask. Its mane curls, treated as spirals, and its fierce expression serve to ward off evil influences and protect the wearer of the object. Quick Specifications: Origin: China, Ming Dynasty. Reign: Xuande (15th century). Hallmark: Fineness 916 (22-karat gold). Expertise: Sotheby's.

<https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2022/important-chinese-art-zhong-guo-yi-shu-zhen-pin/a-rare-reticulated-gold-ornament-ming-dynasty-15th>

Technique: Reticulated openwork goldsmithing and fine chasing. The Gallery's Opinion: More than a mere fragment, it is a miniature sculpture of incredible finesse. The combination of archaeological rarity, metal purity (22 ct), and its passage through Sotheby's makes it an essential cabinet piece for any serious collector of early period Chinese art.