



Ancient Lekythos, Greece, Classical Period (475-450 B.c.) - Ceramic/terracotta



350 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Quelques manques

Material : Terracotta

Height : 11 cm

Description

Attic
white-ground black-figure lekythos
Ancient Greece
475 - 450
B.C.
Terracotta

This Attic white-ground lekythos, crafted in terracotta circa 475 - 450 BC, belongs to a category of vessels closely associated with funerary practices in Classical Greece. Its elegant, elongated profile (comprising a ring foot, a cylindrical body, and a flaring shoulder surmounted by a narrow, truncated neck) is characteristic of containers

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intended for perfumed oils. The body is decorated with a continuous ivy-leaf band framed by a geometric frieze beneath the shoulder and a zone of black glaze covering the lower body and foot of the vessel. The shoulder is adorned with radiating strokes, a traditional decorative motif. The surface patina, along with minor wear and traces of long burial, lends the object an authentic and particularly evocative presence.

Stylistically, the piece belongs to the tradition of Attic workshops of the early Classical period, when the white-ground technique experienced significant development. The overall treatment of the vase, the elegance of its proportions, and the organization of its decoration reflect the restrained sophistication and refined aesthetic characteristic of Athenian production in the 5th century BC. Its present condition, marked by wear to the painted surface, also attests to the inherent fragility of white-ground lekythoi, many of which were deposited as grave offerings rather than intended for everyday use. Documentation confirming the lawful acquisition and provenance of the object will be provided to the purchaser upon sale.