Ancient Pre-columbian Terracotta Ornithomorphic Vessel



3 800 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Terracotta

Length : 20 cm

Width : 9.4 cm

Height : 20.8 cm

Description

Dimensions: Height 20.8 cm, width 20 cm, depth 9.4 cm. Weight: 617 g.Technique: Hand-modeled terracotta, engobe, smoothed surface, incised decoration imitating the plumage of the wings.Condition: Excellent antique condition with natural signs of wear, patina, and scuffing. A circular crack on the handle has been professionally restored and is therefore nearly invisible.Provenance: From a private collection, acquired at a British auction.Rarity: A rare example of ancient Andean sculpture featuring expressive ornithomorphic iconography.Comparisons: Museum pieces of pre-Columbian ceramics from the Andean region (Chavin, Cupisnique, and Vicus cultures).Based on visual analysis of the photographs, the condition of the ceramic, and its technological

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characteristics:Cultural affiliation and style: The iconography of the vase (a bird figure with a massive beak, the shape of the eyes, and an incised geometric ornament representing the wings) is characteristic of ancient pre-Columbian Peruvian ceramics (Andean region, cultures of the Early Horizon or Early Intermediate Period, such as Chavín, Cupisnique, or Vicus).Condition of the ceramic and signs of age:Natural wear is visible on the surface: the mineral coating (engobe) and the smooth finish have worn away on the most prominent parts (beak, tail, and raised legs).A natural patina, mineral deposits, and traces of prolonged exposure or burial are present in the pores, depressions, and incised lines.The structure of the terracotta visible in the areas of wear is homogeneous and porous, with no signs of modern mechanical or chemical aging treatments. A circular crack on the stirrup handle was documented, concealed by a professional restoration.Conclusion on age: The object is an authentic archaeological artifact from pre-Columbian America and dates from the 1st millennium BCE to the first half of the 1st millennium CE.Note: This vase is part of a dispersed collection. Two other complementary ancient zoomorphic vases from the same provenance are available in our other listings.Please examine the attached photographs carefully, as they are an integral part of this description. If you have any questions, we will be happy to answer them. The item will be shipped with full tracking and insurance. Please note that shipping costs include labor, packaging, and postage.