Statue Of King Oni Of Ife, Benin-nigeria



4 500 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Length : 66 cm

Description

Origin: Nigeria Tribe Name: Beni Edo Material: Bronze Dimensions: 66 cm Shipping Method: Colissimo/DHL within 24-48 hours This statuette depicts a standing, richly adorned royal figure whose appearance evokes the traditions of bronze sculpture from the historic kingdoms of West Africa, notably those of Ife and Benin, in present-day Nigeria. The figure is depicted in a frontal, solemn pose, symbolizing dignity, power, and authority. The head and crown: The face, with harmonious features, has large almond-shaped eyes, a well-defined nose, and full lips. The head is crowned with a tall cylindrical headdress, adorned with several rows of geometric motifs and a circular central element extended by a vertical stem. This headdress evokes the insignia of prestige associated with

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royalty.The costume: The figure wears a short garment that falls just above the knees, decorated with borders and raised motifs. An ornamental belt or chain runs down the front of the garment and ends in a circular medallion.The arms and hands: The arms are slightly spread apart from the body. The clenched hands appear to be holding small objects, which may represent ceremonial regalia or symbols of authority. Material and technique: The work appears to be made of a copper alloy, likely bronze or brass, with a dark brown patina and traces of oxidation. The decorative details are reminiscent of the lost-wax casting techniques used in the artistic traditions of Ife and the Kingdom of Benin.The Ooni is the traditional ruler of Ilé-Ife, a city considered a major spiritual and historical center of the Yoruba people.In Nigerian royal traditions, depictions of rulers often highlight the attributes of power, the richness of regalia, dynastic prestige, and the relationship between royalty and the spiritual realm.However, it is important to distinguish between the Kingdom of Ife and the Kingdom of Benin, which have artistic traditions that are historically linked but distinct. The precise identification of this statuette as a representation of an Ooni of Ife cannot be confirmed based on the photograph alone.Private French collection. Dated 19th-early 20th century The buyer may commission an appraisal if desired