



Asian Art Discoveries - China and Southeast Asia (AK0621)

Tue, 15th Jun 2021

Viewing:

You may view objects in this auction in our gallery from 7 June to 14 June, 2021. FFP2 masks are required. We are open Monday to Friday from 10 AM to 6 PM CET, as well as by appointment.

Lot 227

Starting price: €400

Estimate: €800

A TURQUOISE MINIATURE PENDANT OF A BUDDHIST LION

China, Shang Dynasty (1600 – 1046 BC) or later. Archaic depiction of a crouching Buddhist lion, with his head facing back. Ornamental details are neatly carved. Central drilling through the neck and tail showing ancient toolmarks. Buddhist lions are mythical, sacred creatures which are featuring guardians with special protective powers. According to legend, their sole mission has been to keep their watch over Buddhist temples. They also symbolize prosperity, success, and happiness.

Publication: This lot will be catalogued in the book about the turquoise collection of Dr. Zelnik which is expected to be published in 2022.

Condition: Good condition with some age-related wear.

Provenance: The collection of The Zelnik István Southeast Asian Gold Museum. Institutional art collection in Belgium, acquired from the above. Dr. István Zelnik, President of the Hungarian South and Southeast Asian Research Institute, is a former high-ranking Hungarian diplomat who spent several decades in Southeast Asia, building the largest known private collection of Asian art in Europe.

Weight: 12.9 g

Dimensions: Height 1.7 cm, Length 3 cm