

Private Sale

56 Jades from the Sam and
Myrna Myers Collection

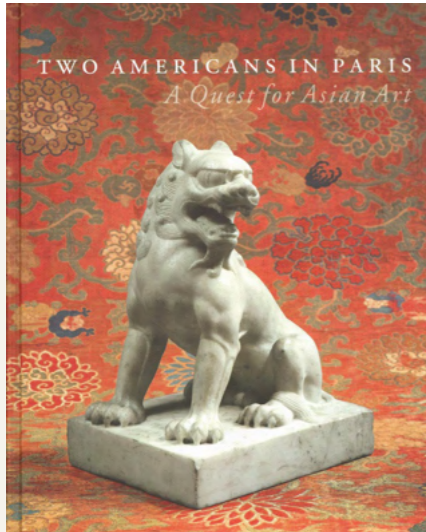


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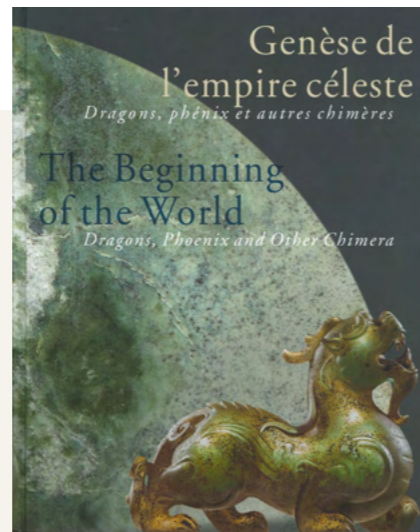
SINCE 1968

Dear collectors,

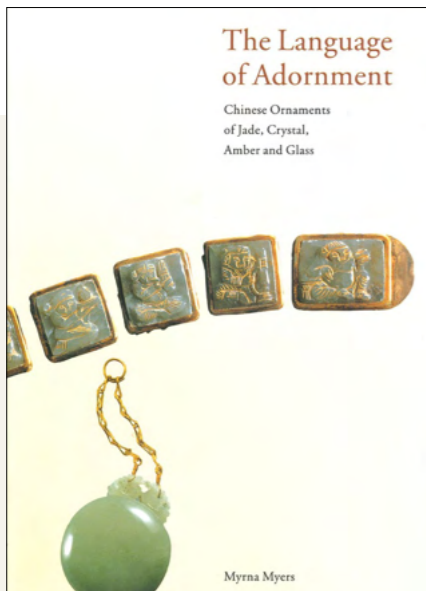
we are proud to present you with an exclusive private sale of archaic jades from the renown collection of Sam and Myrna Myers. All jades have been carefully examined by Prof. Filippo Salviati and 18 objects from this offer have been published in important books about the collection.



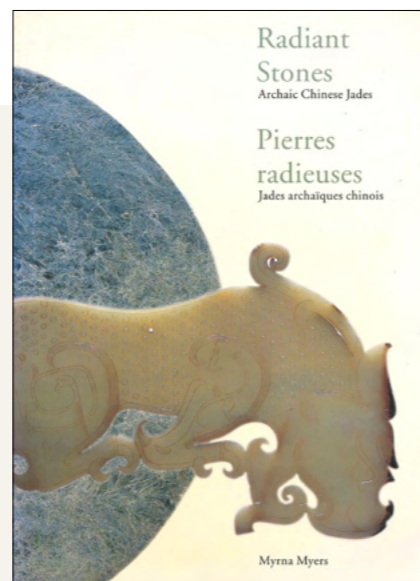
Jean-Paul Desroches,
Two Americans in Paris:
A Quest for Asian Art. Lienart,
Paris, 2016



Jean-Paul Desroches,
The Beginning of the World.
Dragons, Phoenix and Other Chimera,
Lienart, Paris, 2020



Filippo Salviati,
The Language of Adornment:
Chinese Ornaments of Jade, Crystal,
Amber and Glass from the Neolithic Period to the Qing Dynasty,
Myrna Myers, 2002



Filippo Salviati,
Radiant Stones:
Archaic Chinese Jades,
Myrna Myers, Paris, 2000

This private sale is a unique chance to acquire jades with a meticulous pedigree at fair market value. Past auctions at Sotheby's and Christie's have yielded stellar results for archaic jades from the Sam and Myrna Myers collection.



**A VERY RARE AND FINELY CARVED
WHITE JADE TABLET PENDANT**
MID-WESTERN ZHOU DYNASTY,
10TH-9TH CENTURY BC

Price realised: USD 47,880

Christie's,
IMPORTANT CHINESE CERAMICS AND
WORKS OF ART,
**PROPERTY FROM THE COLLECTION OF
SAM AND MYRNA MYERS**
23 September 2022, Lot 823



A LARGE MOTTLED GREEN JADE CONG
NEOLITHIC PERIOD,
LIANGZHU CULTURE

Price realised: GBP 315,000

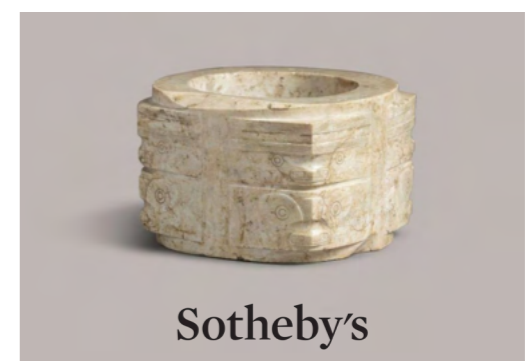
Sotheby's,
TWO AMERICANS IN PARIS,
**THE COLLECTION OF SAM AND
MYRNA MYERS,**
4 November 2021, Lot 289



**A MOTTLED GREENISH-GREY
JADE 'DRAGON' PENDANT**
LATE EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY,
4TH-3RD CENTURY BC

Price realised: USD 20,160

Christie's,
IMPORTANT CHINESE CERAMICS
AND WORKS OF ART,
**PROPERTY FROM THE COLLECTION
OF SAM AND MYRNA MYERS**
23 September 2022, Lot 824



A RARE CALCIFIED JADE CONG
NEOLITHIC PERIOD,
LIANGZHU CULTURE

**Estimated at:
GBP 250,000-350,000 GBP**

Sotheby's,
TWO AMERICANS IN PARIS,
**THE COLLECTION OF
SAM AND MYRNA MYERS,**
4 November 2021, Lot 385

1
**A LARGE RUSSET AND PALE CELADON
 TOOTHED ANIMAL MASK ORNAMENT,
 HONGSHAN CULTURE**

China, c. 4000-3000 BC. The well-polished stone is carved and pierced in the form of an animal mask, decorated with arched brows above circular eyes, and horns which are carved to the top of the curved protruding ears. The details of the face are carefully rendered with thick concave troughs and the bottom of the jade is carved with five teeth. The mostly translucent stone is of a russet and pale celadon tone with yellow as well as dark caramel streaking, and sparse icy inclusions.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with old wear, signs of weathering and erosion, and minuscule nibbling, all as expected for a jade which has been buried for several millennia.

Weight: 80.9 g
 Dimensions: Length 17.9 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related jade toothed mask ornament, 17.2 cm long, Hongshan culture, in the collection of the Smithsonian Freer Gallery of Art, accession number F1991.52.



Hongshan 'toothed' pendants are characterized by a stylized mask carved in the center and a row of double-pointed protrusions at the bottom that resemble the teeth of an animal: the central mask is flanked on both sides by flattened extensions with a straight incision at the center.

AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Closely related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 28 November 2018, lot 2708
Price: HKD 1,750,000 or approx.
EUR 229,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A very rare celadon jade toothed animal mask ornament, Hongshan culture, circa 4000-3000 BC
Expert remark: Compare the closely related form and color. Note the smaller size (12 cm).



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Closely related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 29 November 2017, lot 2704
Price: HKD 10,900,000 or approx.
EUR 1,450,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A very rare green jade toothed animal mask ornament, late Hongshan culture
Expert remark: Compare the closely related form. Note the slightly larger size (19.6 cm)



Purchase for EUR 12,000



2

**A TWO-TIERED MOTTLED BLOOD-RED JADE CONG,
LIANGZHU CULTURE**

China, Neolithic period, c. 3300-2200 BC. The thick-walled cong with gently rounded sides and a cylindrical interior, carved to each corner with a stylized human and animal mask design. The eyes and noses as well as the raised bands above the human masks and recesses in between are finely incised with line and scroll designs. The faces are divided with a gently recessed vertical band to the center of each side. The opaque stone of a mottled reddish-brown tone with striations of translucent celadon and red, as well as patches of calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.

Condition: Very good condition with surface wear and natural imperfections. Some nibbling to the edges, tiny nicks, few natural fissures, and traces of weathering.

Weight: 409.8 g

Dimensions: Height 5.7 cm, Length 7.6 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related ritual implement (cong), Liangzhu culture, in the collection of the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, object number B60J603. Compare a related jade cong with design of mythical creatures, 6.8 cm tall, Liangzhu culture, in the National Palace Museum, illustrated in The Complete Collection of the Treasures of the Palace Museum: Jadeaware, Hong Kong, 1995, p. 36, no. 31.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related

Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 11 June 2021, lot 3167

Price: HKD 212,500 or approx.

EUR 27,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing

Description: A mottled russet and celadon jade two-tiered jade cong, Qijia culture

Expert remark: Compare the closely related form and similar carving, color, and size (6 cm) of the stone.



Purchase for EUR 15,000





Published: Filippo Salviati, *Radiant Stones: Archaic Chinese Jades*, Myrna Myers, Paris, 2000, no. 26



3 A MOTTLED JADE AXE HEAD, FU, SONGZE-LIANGZHU CULTURE

China, Neolithic period, c. 3500-2500 BC. The broad axe flaring towards the slightly beveled and rounded cutting edge with the butt end pierced with a central aperture drilled from both sides. The opaque stone of dark gray tone with red and beige clouding.

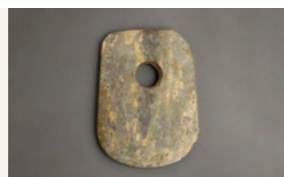
Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition with surface wear and natural imperfections such as fissures. Obvious losses, some nibbling, minuscule chips, light scratches, and minor fritting along the cutting edge.

Weight: 424.3 g
Dimensions: Length 15.4 cm

Expert's note: The chips along the cutting edge and on the straight shoulder indicate a practical, more than ceremonial, use of the axe.

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a closely related axehead (fu), Liangzhu culture, in the collection of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Asian Art.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Closely related
Auction: Sotheby's London, 6 November 2019, lot 208
Price: GBP 5,000 or approx. **EUR 7,900** converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A jade axe, Neolithic period
Expert remark: Compare the closely related form and similar mottled opaque stone of greyish beige color. Note the larger size (24.8 cm).



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's London, 6 November 2012, lot 74
Price: GBP 15,000 or approx. **EUR 28,000** converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A mottled jade axe, Neolithic period, Liangzhu culture, 3rd millennium BC
Expert remark: Compare the similar form, size, and related dark brown and black tone with celadon areas with creamy white streaks throughout.



Purchase for EUR 1,800

4 A LARGE MOTTLED GREEN JADE CEREMONIAL AXE, FU, LIANGZHU CULTURE

China, circa 3300-2200 BC. The thick yet mostly translucent blade elegantly shaped, its rectangular form broadening slightly toward the sharp beveled edge, pierced from both sides with a hafting hole and applied with a semi-circular notch at the base. The translucent jade is of a bright yellowish green hue with dark gray clouding, icy and russet veining, and areas of calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with expected wear, signs of weathering and erosion, and some smoothed blemishes to one side.

Weight: 329 g
Dimensions: Length 17.9 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related russet jade ceremonial axe, Fu, 16.3 cm long, dated to the Neolithic period, in the National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian Institution, accession number F1916.498.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Closely related
Auction: Sotheby's Hong Kong, 9 October 2023, lot 3711
Price: HKD 279,400 or approx. **EUR 33,400** converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A large mottled green jade ceremonial axe, Neolithic period, Liangzhu culture
Expert remark: Compare the closely related form and mottling of the stone. Note the similar size (20.6 cm).



Purchase for EUR 8,500



5
**A MOTTLED GREEN AND IVORY-TONED JADE DISK,
 BI, LIANGZHU CULTURE**

China, circa 3300-2200 BC. Of circular form with a central aperture drilled from both sides to form an encircling ridge. The variegated stone of an ivory tone with deep green and russet inclusions, patches of gray color, calcification, and extensive veining.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition, commensurate with age. Extensive wear and weathering, as expected, with some nicks and chips which have smoothed over time. The stone with natural inclusions and fissures, some of which may have developed into small hairline cracks. Calcification throughout.


Weight: 656.8 g
 Dimensions: Diameter 15.8 cm

AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Closely related
Auction: Christie's New York, 19 March 2015, lot 480
Price: USD 25,000 or approx.
EUR 33,500 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A mottled ivory-toned and olive-green hardstone Bi disc, southeast China, Neolithic period, Liangzhu culture, 3rd millennium BC
Expert remark: Compare the closely related form and mottling, the ivory tones with similar green and russet inclusions. Note the slightly larger size (18.3 cm).



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON
Type: Closely related
Auction: Christie's New York, 9 December 2020, lot 2
Price: USD 27,500 or approx.
EUR 30,500 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A mottled pale beige and green jade bi disc, 3rd millennium BC, Liangzhu culture
Expert remark: Compare the closely related form and mottling. Note the different color. Note the similar size (15 cm).



Purchase for EUR 3,800



Published: Jean-Paul Desroches, *Two Americans in Paris: a Quest for Asian Art*. Lienart editions: Paris, 2016, p. 45, no. 72

6
**A CALCIFIED JADE COLLARED DISK,
 SHANG DYNASTY**

China, 1600-1046 BC. The circular disk with a collared inner edge extending to an outer rim with a rounded edge. The opaque stone is of a grayish tone with pale celadon inclusions, dark gray clouding, and extensive calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition, commensurate with age, with ancient wear. Signs of weathering and erosion, soil encrustations, possibly from a prolonged period of burial, natural flaws, and few chips which have smoothed over time.

Weight: 41.1 g
 Dimensions: Diameter 9.4 cm

AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Closely related
Auction: Sotheby's Hong Kong, 5 December 2023, lot 721
Price: HKD 30,480 or approx.
EUR 3,700 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A grayish-celadon jade collared disk, Shang dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related form and manner of carving. Note the slightly larger size (10.4 cm)



Purchase for EUR 1,500



7
**A CALCIFIED JADE COLLARED DISK,
 SHANG DYNASTY**

China, 1600-1046 BC. Carved from a mottled section of dark brown jade, the circular form with a beveled outer edge rising to the collared rim on the inner edge. The opaque stone is of an olive green to brown hue with dark yellow inclusions, and black clouding.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Overall still good condition, commensurate with age, with wear. Signs of weathering and erosion, natural flaws, and chips to the edges. The jade with natural fissures. Old 'kintsugi' repairs in several areas.

Weight: 28 g
 Dimensions: Diameter 8.5 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a closely related jade disk with a glossy dark brown and pale brown hue, 9.2 cm in diameter, dated to the late Shang dynasty, in the National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian Institution, accession number S1987.459.



Purchase for EUR 700





8
AN INSCRIBED MOTTLED DARK SPINACH-GREEN JADE DAGGER BLADE, GE, SHANG DYNASTY

China, 1600-1046 BC. Carved with a finely beveled rim tapering to the blade's point, a slightly raised ridge running down the center towards the lower section. The tang with an aperture for mounting. Each side of the blade inscribed with archaic characters, resembling clan's marks found at bronze vessels of the time. The opaque stone is of a dark spinach-green hue with russet and gray inclusions, veining, and small areas of calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition, commensurate with age. Extensive wear and weathering, as expected, with some nicks and chips along the edges. The stone with natural inclusions and fissures.

Weight: 43.5 g
 Dimensions: Length 13.9 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON
 Compare a related jade ge blade similarly carved, 8.3 cm long, dated to the late Shang dynasty, in the National Museum of Asian Art, accession number F1979.35.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON
Type: Related
Auction: Bonhams Hong Kong, 29 May 2024, lot 422
Price: HKD 179,200 or approx.
EUR 21,000 converted at the time of writing
Description: A pale green jade dagger blade, Ge, Shang dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related form albeit with raised notches on the base end. Note the dagger is not inscribed. Note the larger size (23.4 cm).



Purchase for EUR 4,500



9
A TURQUOISE MATRIX 'MYTHICAL BEAST' FRAGMENT, LATE SHANG TO WESTERN ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 12th to 10th century BC. The turquoise is finely mined from its ore with remnants of the grayish-black stone to the verso, the sea green mineral superbly incised with archaic motifs to depict the head of a mythical beast. The verso is cut with grooves to the top and perforated with a circular aperture, drilled from one side.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Old wear, obvious losses, and natural imperfections. The turquoise with nicks, scratches, losses, chips, and signs of weathering and erosions.

Weight: 113.9 g
 Dimensions: Height 9.2 cm

Purchase for EUR 4,500

10
**A RETICULATED JADE
 'DRAGONS AND PHOENIXES' PENDANT,
 HUANG, EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY**

China, 8th-3rd century BC. Finely carved in openwork, the terminals in the form of dragons, their S-shape bodies merging into the arch of the pendant cover, the reticulated phoenixes standing back-to-back at the center. The body of the dragons minutely incised with comma scrolls with a single aperture at the center for suspension. The semi-translucent jade is of a pale celadon hue with icy clouding and areas of alteration.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition, commensurate with age, with ancient wear. Signs of weathering and erosion, soil encrustations suggesting a prolonged period of burial, shallow chips to the surface, and nicks to edges. The jade with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into small hairline cracks.

Weight: 55.5 g
 Dimensions: Length 14.2 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a near identical jade 'dragons and phoenixes' Huang, 14.5 cm long, dated to the Eastern Zhou dynasty, illustrated in Filippo Salviati's 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades 2017, p. 256, no. 273 (fig. 1). Compare a closely related jade 'dragons and phoenixes' Huang excavated in 1977 in Yangong, Changfeng, Anhui, dated to the Eastern Zhou dynasty, illustrated in Jessica Rawson Chinese Jade from the Neolithic to the Qing, British Museum, 1995, p. 69, fig. 57.



fig.1

AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related

Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 3 December 2021, lot 2739

Price: HKD 1,375,000 or approx.

EUR 173,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing

Description: A reticulated jade 'double dragon and phoenix' pendant, Huang, late Warring States period, circa 300-221 BC

Expert remark: Compare the related subject. Note the different form and slightly larger size (16.2 cm).



Purchase for EUR 15,000





11
A RARE RETICULATED PALE CELADON JADE 'DRAGON' PENDANT, HUANG, EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 770-221 BC. Finely carved, the arched pendant carved in openwork with two large dragon heads on both ends, gripping a vine in their mouths. The bodies of the larger dragons sheltering three smaller dragons, the head of two touching the chins of the larger dragons, and a single dragon in the center. The bodies incised with comma scrolls and archaic scrolling designs. The mostly translucent jade is of a pale celadon hue with icy inclusions, pale russet clouding, and areas of calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with ancient wear, minuscule chips smoothed over time, and minor nibbling to edges.

Weight: 23.7 g
 Dimensions: Length 10.5 cm

This Huang shows a degree of complexity in design marked by its sophisticated and rich details. It is representative of a style that was primarily diffused in eastern Anhui, northern Jiangsu (Xuzhou area) and western Shandong provinces, characterized by high quality workmanship, detailed carving, openwork patterns, and dragons as well as phoenixes as main motifs.

AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON
Type: Related
Auction: Sotheby's New York, 18 March 2014, lot 149
Price: USD 62,000 or approx.
EUR 76,500 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A fine and rare jade pendant, Huang, Eastern Zhou dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related double dragon heads and reticulated form. Note the different color and incision work.



Purchase for EUR 6,800



12
A RETICULATED 'DRAGONS AND PHOENIXES' JADE PENDANT, HUANG, EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 4th-3rd century BC. Finely carved in openwork, the arc-shaped pendant with two coiling dragons, their heads turned inward, looking up towards the opposing phoenixes. Two apertures on either end for suspension. The semi-translucent jade is of a pale green tone with icy and cloudy inclusions, and areas of alteration as well as remnants of red pigment.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition, commensurate with age, with ancient wear, minor signs of weathering and erosion, soil encrustations, most certainly from a prolonged period of burial, small chips, and losses. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into small hairline cracks.

Weight: 16.1 g
 Dimensions: Length 7.5 cm

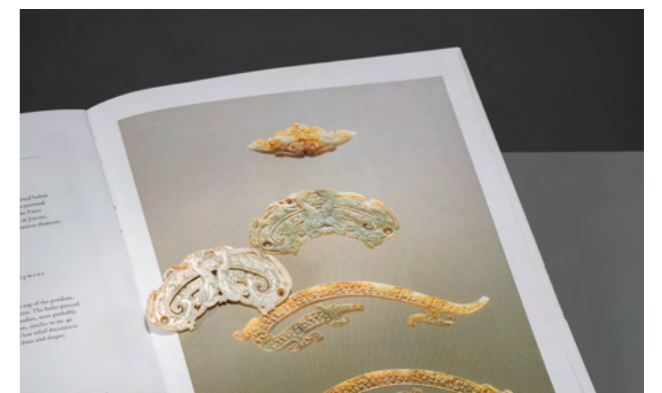
LITERATURE COMPARISON
 Compare a later pair of celadon arc-shaped pendants, Hunang, 8.8 cm and 10.6 cm long, dated to the Eastern Han dynasty, in the Dingzhou Museum, illustrated in Gu Fang's *The Complete Collection of Jades Unearthed in China*, Vol. 1, 2005, p. 212. Compare a related jade pendant with dragons and phoenixes in openwork, dated to the Warring States period, in the National Palace Museum, accession number K1C003259.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON
Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 3 December 2021, lot 2723
Price: HKD 6,850,000 or approx.
EUR 773,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A very rare and finely carved grayish-white jade reticulated 'dragon and phoenix' pendant, late Warring States period to early Western Han dynasty, circa, 300-141 BC
Expert remark: Compare the related form albeit in a slightly later style. Note the larger size (10 cm).



Purchase for EUR 3,800



Published: Filippo Salviati, *The Language of Adornment: Chinese Ornaments of Jade, Crystal, Amber and Glass from the Neolithic Period to the Qing Dynasty*, Myrna Myers, 2002, no. 42



13
**AN ALTERED LIGHT GREEN JADE
 'DRAGON AND PHOENIX' PENDANT,
 LATE EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY**

China, 4th to 3rd century BC. Of flattened form, carved and reticulated with the profile of a dragon, its nose curling upwards, and the body incised with double-lined scrolls and hatched areas, flanked by an openwork, scrolling phoenix. The semi-translucent stone is of a light green tone with opaque, creamy-white surface alteration.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition with surface wear, signs of weathering and erosion, and nibbling.

Weight: 7.1 g
 Dimensions: Length 7.4 cm

Expert's note: The awkward tail of the dragon indicates that the piece was carved from half a section of a jade ring.

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related 'dragon heads and serpent' pendant, dated to the Eastern Zhou dynasty, Warring States period, 11.4 cm long, in the Smithsonian Institute, National Museum of Asian Art, accession number S1987.520.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Sotheby's New York, 23 March 2011, lot 699
Price: USD 22,500 or approx.
EUR 29,500 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A calcified jade 'dragon' pendant late Eastern Zhou dynasty / early Western Han dynasty



Expert remark: Compare the related curved form and the scrolling details to the sides. Note the smaller size (14 cm). This jade is now in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, accession number 2001.665.

Purchase for EUR 2,500



Published: Filippo Salviati, *Radiant Stones: Archaic Chinese Jades*, Myrna Myers, Paris, 2000, no.112

14
**A RETICULATED CELADON JADE
 'DOUBLE-DRAGON' PENDANT, HUANG,
 EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY**

China, 4th-3rd century BC. Finely carved in openwork, the arc-formed pendants each decorated on one side with dragon heads in profile at each end, detailed with minute incision work depicting the fangs, teeth, hair, and eyes. The main body neatly reticulated depicting stylized phoenixes standing face-to-face with an aperture above each phoenix for suspension. The semi-translucent stone is of a celadon hue with icy inclusions, dark gray shading, and alteration.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition, commensurate with age, with ancient wear. Signs of weathering and erosion, small chips, nibbling to edges, remnants of pigment, repair to the snout of one dragon head. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into small hairline cracks.

Weight: 10.1 g and 8.8 g
 Dimensions: Length 9.7 cm and 9.4 cm

AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Sotheby's London, 3 November 2021, lot 116
Price: GBP 44,100 or approx.
EUR 64,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A rare celadon jade arc-shaped pendant, Huang, late Eastern Zhou dynasty, ca. 4th/3rd century BC



Expert remark: Compare the related form and style with similarly incised facial feature. Note the lack of openwork. Note the larger size (13.4 cm).

Purchase for EUR 4,800



Published: Jean-Paul Desroches, *Two Americans in Paris: a Quest for Asian Art*. Lienart editions: Paris, 2016, p. 59, no. 119





15
A GREEN JADE 'DOUBLE-DRAGON' PENDANT,
HUANG, WESTERN ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 1100-771 BC. The arc-shaped pendant carved with double-line grooves on both sides depicting a stylized dragon's body and legs, terminating at each end with an abstract dragon head. Pierced on both ends for suspension. The translucent jade is of a bright green tone with russet shading, cloudy inclusions, and icy veining.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition, commensurate with age, with ancient wear. Minor signs of weathering and erosion, soil encrustations suggesting a prolonged period of burial, remnants of pigment, minor nibbling to edges, and a shallow chip which has been smoothed over time. The jade with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into small hairline cracks.

Weight: 14.9 g
 Dimensions: Length 7.5 cm

Expert's note: Compare the current lot with a series of ritual pendants in the collection of the National Museum of China, unearthed in Shanxi from the tomb of Bi Ji, the wife of a Western Zhou Dynasty aristocrat (see image section). Notice the similarities not only in the incised decoration and stone color, but also in the notched grooves at the ends of the pendants.

LITERATURE COMPARISON
 Compare a related jade Huang carved with a stylized motif, 7.7 cm long, dated ca. 1050-950 BC, in the National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian Institution, accession number S1987.534.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON
Type: Near identical
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 30 November 2020, lot 2745
Price: HKD 150,000 or approx.
EUR 19,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A dark green jade 'double-dragon' pendant, Huang, Western Zhou dynasty, c. 1100-771 BC
Expert remark: Compare the closely related form carved with double-line grooves depicting a stylized dragon. Note the larger size (10.6 cm).



Purchase for EUR 1,500

16
A RUSSET JADE 'DOUBLE-DRAGON' PENDANT,
HUANG, EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 4th-3rd century BC. Finely carved, the arched pendant in the form of two conjoined dragons. Their faces with a large nose, square chin, and bulging eyes, the bodies incised with comma scroll flanking a central diamond shape with three incised stripes on each side. Pierced through the mouth of each dragon and horizontally through the center for suspension. The semi-translucent jade is of a russet tone with icy clouding, gray inclusions, and areas of calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition, commensurate with age. Ancient wear, signs of weathering and erosion, and microscopic nibbling to edges.

Weight: 15.4 g
 Dimensions: Length 7.4 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON
 Compare a related russet jade double dragon-head pendant, Huang, 9.8 cm long, dated to the late Spring and Autumn period, once a part of the Qing court collection, in the National Palace Museum, illustrated in *The Complete Collection of the Treasures of the Palace Museum: Jadeaware, Hong Kong, 1995, p. 134, no. 111.*



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON
Type: Related
Auction: Bonhams Hong Kong, 30 May 2017, lot 26
Price: HKD 137,500 or approx.
EUR 18,500 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: Two jade 'dragon' pendants, Huang, Eastern Zhou dynasty and Warring States period
Expert remark: Compare the related form albeit with different incision work. Note this lot is comprised of two jade pendants. Note the similar size (7 cm).



Purchase for EUR 1,500



Published: Filippo Salviati, *Radiant Stones: Archaic Chinese Jades*, Myrna Myers, Paris, 2000, no. 111





18
A RUSSET AND IVORY-TONED JADE PENDANT,
HUANG, SPRING AND AUTUMN PERIOD

China, 6th-5th century BC. The arc-shaped pendant with grooved edges finely carved on both sides depicting four abstract dragons in a vertical symmetry. The bodies of the dragons detailed with comma scrolls, pierced through the center with a large aperture for suspension. The opaque stone is of an ivory-toned hue with russet patches.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with ancient wear. Minimal signs of weathering and erosion, minor nibbling to edges, and few microscopic nicks.

Weight: 24 g
 Dimensions: Length 7.9 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON
 Compare a related jade pendant, carved with stylized dragons with raised grooves, dated to the Spring and Autumn period, in the National Palace Museum, accession number B1C000391.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON
Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 3 December 2021, lot 2734
Price: HKD 187,500 or approx.
EUR 23,500 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A jade 'double-dragon' pendant, Huang, late Spring and Autumn period, circa 570-476 BC
Expert remark: Compare the related form, motif, and color of jade. Note the absence of the central aperture. Note the larger size (12.4 cm).



Purchase for EUR 900



Published: Jean-Paul Desroches, *Two Americans in Paris: a Quest for Asian Art*. Lienart editions: Paris, 2016, p. 60, no. 133

17
A MINIATURE PALE CELADON JADE PENDANT,
HUANG, EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 4th-3rd century BC. Of arc-shape, terminating to both sides in dragon heads, incised with scrolls framed by a single lined border, and drilled at the center for suspension. The translucent stone is of a pale celadon, almost white, color with a small cream-colored inclusion to one end.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with surface wear, signs of weathering and erosion, minuscule nibbling. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into thin hairline cracks.

Weight: 4 g
 Dimensions: Length 3.9 cm

Literature comparison
 Compare a slightly larger jade huang pendant, dated to the Eastern Zhou dynasty, discovered at a tomb in Xinzhou, Lixian, Hunan province, and reproduced in Kaogu, 1988, vol.5, p. 430, fig. 4:4.

Purchase for EUR 900



Published: Filippo Salviati, *Radiant Stones: Archaic Chinese Jades*, Myrna Myers, Paris, 2000, no. 109





19
A DEEP GREEN JADE PENDANT,
HUANG, EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 770-221 BC. Finely carved, the arc-shape pendant decorated with large nodes and comma spirals enclosed by a deeply incised line border. The upper sides with three raised notches on each side, pierced through the middle with a single aperture for suspension. The translucent stone is of a deep green hue with dark and pale russet inclusions and some speckles of calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition, commensurate with age, with wear. Signs of weathering and erosion, nibbling to edges, small nicks, and small chips.

Weight: 62.6 g
 Dimensions: Length 18.6 cm

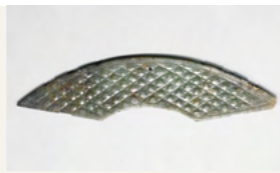
LITERATURE COMPARISON
 Compare a related arc-shape pendant, Huang, of similar deep celadon, 17.8 cm long, dated to the Eastern Zhou dynasty, 5th century, in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, accession number 2009.90a, b.



Hongshan 'toothed' pendants are characterized by a stylized mask carved in the center and a row of double-pointed protrusions at the bottom that resemble the teeth of an animal: the central mask is flanked on both sides by flattened extensions with a straight incision at the center.

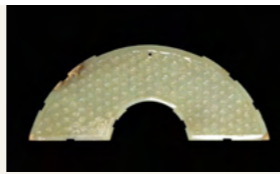
AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Closely related
Auction: Sotheby's New York, 19 March 2014, lot 151
Estimate: USD 10,000 or approx.
EUR 12,500 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A Jade pendant, Huang, Eastern Zhou dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the closely related form with raised comma scrolls, and color.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's New York, 16 October 2001, lot 209
Price: USD 15,275 or approx.
EUR 25,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A pale greenish-white jade Huang, late Eastern Zhou dynasty, 5th-4th century
Expert remark: Compare the related form albeit with a different color. Note the smaller size (14 cm). This jade is now in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, accession number 2001.665.



Purchase for EUR 2,200

20
A RETICULATED CELADON JADE
'DOUBLE-DRAGON' PENDANT, HUANG,
EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 4th-3rd century BC. Finely carved, the arched pendant in the form of two conjoining dragon with their heads twisting inwards. Their bodies decorated in relief with comma spirals, fine incision work, and openwork scrolling designs. The mostly translucent jade is of a pale celadon hue with faint russet inclusions and areas of calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with ancient wear and microscopic nibbling to edges.

Weight: 39.3 g
 Dimensions: Length 12.6 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a near identical jade pendant with twin dragons, Huang, 13.5 cm long, dated to the Warring States period, excavated in 1977 in a tomb at Yanggong Township, Anhui province, in the National Palace Museum, illustrated in The Complete Collection of the Treasures of the Palace Museum: Jadeaware, Hong Kong, 1995, p. 169, no. 140. Compare a related pale celadon jade pendant, Huang, 13.1 cm long, dated 475-221 BC, in the Harvard Art Museum, accession number 1943.50.470.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 31 May 2017, lot 2718
Price: HKD 1,000,000 or approx.
EUR 104,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A very rare jade 'dragon' pendant, Western Han dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related form with fewer decorations. Note the smaller size (9 cm).



Purchase for EUR 6,000



Published: Filippo Salviati, *The Language of Adornment: Chinese Ornaments of Jade, Crystal, Amber and Glass from the Neolithic Period to the Qing Dynasty*, Myrna Myers, 2002, no. 38





21
**A MOTTLED GRAY JADE 'DOUBLE DRAGON' PLAQUE,
 WARRING STATES PERIOD**

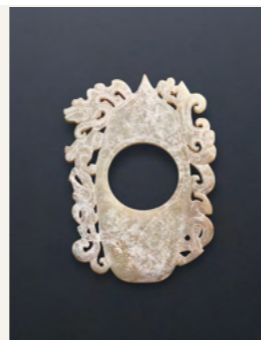
China, 5th-3rd century BC. Of flattened form, carved in openwork with two single-horned dragons, their pierced scrolling limbs enclosing an ovoid panel carved with a pointed end, with a large central aperture, and incised with scrolls. The semi-translucent stone is of a gray tone with cloudy white inclusions, dark specks, and cream-colored surface alterations.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with surface wear, signs of weathering and erosion, remnants of red pigment, and nibbling. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into thin hairline cracks.

Weight: 75.3 g
 Dimensions: Length 11.8 cm

With constant warfare as a central part of life during the Zhou dynasty, weaponry made of jade or with jade parts proliferated. Plaques such as these, with a shield-shape formed by a pointed ended oval body, derive from archer's thumb rings. Originally made from leather, these rings prevented the thumb from harm when the bow string is pulled. Archer's rings date as early as the Shang dynasty as manifested by archaeological evidence from Anyang. From the Warring States period however, the ring gradually lost its utilitarian function as a practical object for archery, becoming flat and purely ornamental.

AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON
Type: Related
Auction: Bonhams Hong Kong, 5 April 2016, lot 24
Price: HKD 1,360,000 or approx.
EUR 187,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A large calcified pale green jade 'dragon' plaque, Warring States period
Expert remark: Compare the inner panel with pointed end, the sinuous dragons, and size (12.6 cm).



Purchase for EUR 6,800



22
**A BROWN AND GRAY JADE
 BI DISC WITH TIGER AND PHOENIX,
 WARRING STATES PERIOD**

China, 475-221 BC. The disc finely carved to both sides in relief with comma spirals between raised borders and flanked by a tiger biting into the tail of a phoenix, their bodies finely incised with scrolls and fine hatched areas. The semi-translucent stone is of a pale brown color with areas of creamy-white and dark brown, and opaque, light brown calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition with ancient wear, few minuscule chips to exposed areas, signs of weathering and erosion, as well as small notches and nibbling. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into thin hairline cracks.

Weight: 51.2 g
 Dimensions: Length 8.6 cm

AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON
Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 31 May 2017, lot 2717
Price: HKD 500,000 or approx.
EUR 67,500 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A jade 'phoenix' disc, bi, Warring States period (475-221 BC)
Expert remark: Compare the raised comma spiral design, openwork mythical beasts flanking the disc, and size (7.6 cm).



Purchase for EUR 4,200



23
AN OLIVE GREEN JADE 'PHOENIX' PENDANT,
WARRING STATES PERIOD

China, 4th – 3rd century BC. Of flattened form, finely carved in partial openwork as a phoenix, its sinuous body coiling sharply forming a compact pendant. Each side finely incised with the crest and plumage of the mythical bird; its torso delineated by coiled spirals. The translucent stone is of a sea-green tone with some darker inclusions, as well as remnants of pigment and areas of calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition, commensurate with age. Natural imperfections, fissures, some nibbles, encrustations, signs of weathering, and some chips along the edges.

Weight: 21.9 g
 Dimensions: Length 7.8 cm

For an ancient drawing of a silhouette pendant related to the present lot, see Wu Dacheng, Gu Yu Tu Kao (Investigations into Ancient Jades with Illustrations), 1889, Shanghai, fig. 1.

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related jade pendant in the shape of dragon with raised irregular curls, 475-221 BC, in the collection of the National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian Institute, accession number S1987.881.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 3 December 2021, lot 2716
Price: HKD 750,000 or approx.
EUR 95,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A jade 'dragon and phoenix' pendant, late Warring States period, c. 300-221 BC
Expert remark: Compare the related form and similar raised coiled curls and color of the jade. Note the larger size (16.3 cm).



Purchase for EUR 4,200



24
A CELADON AND RUSSET JADE 'DRAGON' PENDANT,
WARRING STATES PERIOD

China, 5th-4th century BC. Finely carved, the S-shaped pendant with a dragon twisting its body, the bi-furcated tail elegantly curled. The body of the dragon minutely incised with archaic comma scrolls. The translucent stone is of a celadon tone with extensive orange-russet inclusions, icy veining, and cloudy elements. An aperture through the mouth and abdomen for suspension.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition, commensurate with age, with ancient wear. Signs of weathering and erosion, minor nibbling to edges, and shallow chips to the tail. The jade with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into small hairline cracks.

Weight: 39.3 g
 Dimensions: Length 10.1 cm

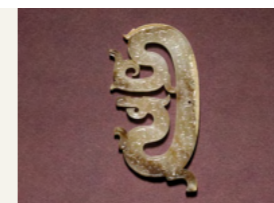
LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related jade dragon of similar form, 12.3 cm long, dated to the 5th-3rd century BC, in the National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian Institution, accession number F1917.376.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 3 December 2021, lot 2705
Price: HKD 687,500 or approx.
EUR 86,500 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A reticulated jade dragon-form pendant, mid-Warring States period, circa 400-300 BC
Expert remark: Compare the related style and color of jade. Note the different posture of the dragon. Note the smaller size (8 cm).



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 3 December 2021, lot 2712
Price: HKD 325,000 or approx. EUR 41,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A Jade dragon-form pendant, mid-Warring States period, circa 400-300 BC
Expert remark: Note the related style and modeling of the dragon. Note the highly calcified jade. Note the similar size (10.4 cm).



Purchase for EUR 7,200



Published: Jean-Paul Desroches, *Two Americans in Paris: a Quest for Asian Art*. Lienart editions: Paris, 2016, p. 62-64, no. 143



25
A PALE CELADON JADE 'DRAGON AND PHOENIX' PENDANT,
EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 4th-3rd century BC. Of flattened form, finely carved in openwork on both sides as a dragon shown in profile intertwined with a phoenix. The surface decorated with minute incision work and comma scrolls, some of which are interconnected. The translucent stone is of a celadon tone with icy veining, cloudy inclusions, and areas of alteration.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition, commensurate with age, with ancient wear. Signs of weathering and erosion, minute nicks, natural flaws, few shallow chips which have been smoothed over time, remnants of pigment, and small losses. The jade with natural fissures, some of which have developed into hairline cracks.

Weight: 24.5 g
 Dimensions: Height 7 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON
 Compare a related celadon jade 'dragon' pendant, 9.1 cm long, dated 475-221 BC, in the National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian Institution, accession number S1987.867.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON
Type: Related
Auction: Christie's London, 14 May 2014, lot 801
Price: GBP 8,125 or approx.
EUR 15,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A carved and pierced jade 'dragon' pendant and a jade bi disc, Eastern Zhou dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related form and carving style. Note the absence of the phoenix. Note this lot includes a bi disc.



Purchase for EUR 2,200

26
A SMALL LIGHT BROWN JADE ZOOMORPHIC PENDANT,
EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 5th-3rd century BC. Of flattened form, carved as a feline in a crouching pose, the face with pointed ears, mouth ajar, and detailed claws. The sides finely incised with curved lines terminating in spirals and pierced at the center for suspension. The opaque stone is of a leathery-brown color.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with ancient wear, signs of weathering and erosion, surface alteration, nibbling, and soil encrustations.

Weight: 5.6 g
 Dimensions: Length 3.6 cm

Expert's note: This pendant was probably used with a few similar small plaques to decorate clothing or a leather belt. The crouching feline has the annular, clawed feet typical of steppe animal art. The beveled decoration also suggests the influence of techniques prevalent in wood carvings.

LITERATURE COMPARISON
 Compare a closely related jade carving of a dragon, said to have been discovered at Jincun, Luoyang, Henan province, dated to the Eastern Zhou to Warring States period, 5.5 cm long, in the Royal Ontario Museum, object number 931.13.18.



Published: Filippo Salviati, *Radiant Stones: Archaic Chinese Jades*, Myrna Myers, Paris, 2000, no. 116

Purchase for EUR 2,200





27
AN ALTERED CELADON JADE
'DRAGON AND PHOENIX' ORNAMENT,
EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 5th-4th century BC. The delicate ornament with a central rectangular section which is incised with C-shape scrolls and drilled to the top with an aperture allowing it to be worn as a pendant, the shorter sides extending and twisting to the long necks of a dragon and phoenix on either side. The semi-translucent stone is of a celadon hue with cream and beige alteration, as well as russet veins, and calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with surface wear and natural imperfections. Minor rubbing, traces of weathering, tiny nicks, and minute abrasions.

Weight: 4.1 g
 Dimensions: Height 6.3 cm

The small perforation drilled in the central, rectangular section suggests that this curious object was a pendant or ornament. The pointed edge at one of the extremities brings it close to the category known by the Chinese name xi.

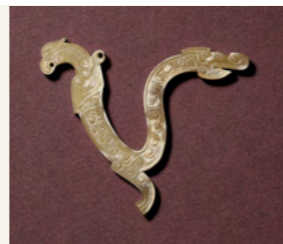
LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare the closely related dragon head with feline features carved at one extremity to jade pendants illustrated by Thomas Lawton, in Chinese Art of the Warring States Period: Change and Continuity, 480-222 B.C., 1982, p. 138, no. 81-82.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 3 December 2021, lot 2710
Price: HKD 350,000 or approx.
EUR 44,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A jade 'dragon and phoenix' pendant, mid-Warring States period, c. 400-300 BC
Expert remark: Compare the related form and similar C-shape curls and mythical beast heads. Note the similar size (6.8 cm).



Purchase for EUR 1,200



Published: Filippo Salviati, Radiant Stones: Archaic Chinese Jades, Myrna Myers, Paris, 2000, no. 100

28
A JADE 'TIGER' PENDANT,
WARRING STATES PERIOD

China, 4th-3rd century BC. Finely carved, the tiger carved with its back hunched and legs bent in a running posture. Its body neatly decorated in comma spirals with finely incised hair along the spine. Pierced through the back for suspension. The partly translucent stone is of a greenish-brown hue with icy inclusions and alteration along the head and hind legs.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition, commensurate with age. Ancient wear, signs of weathering and erosions, microscopic nibbling to edges, minor encrustations. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into small hairline cracks.

Weight: 11.4 g
 Dimensions: Length 6.1 cm

The tiger, called hu or laohu in Chinese, is among the most recognizable of the world's charismatic megafauna. Originating in China and northern Central Asia, the tiger was known to the earliest Chinese, who likely feared, admired, and respected it for its strength, ferocity, and regal bearing. Though its precise symbolism in Shang times (c. 1600-1046 BC) remains unknown, the tiger doubtless played a totemic, tutelary, or talismanic role. By the Western Han period (206 BC-AD 9) the tiger was regarded as the "king of the hundred beasts", or baishou zhi wang, due to its power and ferocity and especially to the markings on its forehead which typically resemble the character wang, or "king". In addition, not only did the tiger figure among the twelve animals of the Chinese zodiac, but it gained a place among the auspicious animals that symbolize the four cardinal directions—the white tiger, or baihu, of the west, the azure dragon of the east, the vermilion bird of the south, and the black tortoise of the north.

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related jade pendant of a mythical beast with a similar form, 7.5 cm long, dated to the Warring States period, once a part of the Qing court collection, in the National Palace Museum, illustrated in The Complete Collection of the Treasures of the Palace Museum: Jadeaware, Hong Kong, 1995, p. 192, no. 160.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 29 November 2022, lot 2731
Price: HKD 277,200 or approx.
EUR 34,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A jade tiger-form pendant and a jade phoenix-form pendant, Xi, c. 3rd century BC.
Expert remark: Compare the related style albeit modeled in a different posture. Note this lot is comprised of a pair.



Purchase for EUR 3,500



Published: Filippo Salviati, Radiant Stones: Archaic Chinese Jades, Myrna Myers, Paris, 2000, no. 110





29
**A PALE CELADON JADE PENDANT
 WITH MYTHICAL CREATURES,
 EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY**

China, 4th-3rd century BC. Carved to one side, the openwork, symmetrical creatures with bird-like heads turned toward the center, standing on hooved feet. Pierced with three apertures for suspension. The translucent jade is of a pale celadon tone with russet shadings and icy inclusions.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition, commensurate with age, with old wear. Signs of weathering and erosion, natural flaws, and microscopic nibbling to edges.

Weight: 5.6 g
 Dimensions: Length 5.8 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related jade pendant with two mythical creatures, 6 cm long, dated Eastern Zhou dynasty to Warring States period, in the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, accession number 34-56. Compare a related jade pendant in the form of two phoenix, 4.8 cm long, dated to the mid-Warring States period, in the Hubei Provincial Museum, illustrated on the cover of Xu Xiaodong, *Phoenix Reborn: Chu Jades Excavated from Hubei*, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2018, p. 190, no. 117.



Purchase for EUR 1,800



30
**A WHITE AND RUSSET JADE
 'BEAST MASK AND PHOENIX' PENDANT,
 ZHOU DYNASTY**

China, 1046 BC to 256 BC. Carved on each side, the ornament with a central rectangular section incised with a pair of confronting beast masks, perforated with a central aperture drilled from both sides, all flanked by a pair of sinuous phoenixes carved in partial openwork. The translucent stone of a creamy white tone with deep brown inclusions, as well as russet veins, and little calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition, commensurate with age. Natural imperfections, losses to one side, nibbles to the edges, and few fissures.

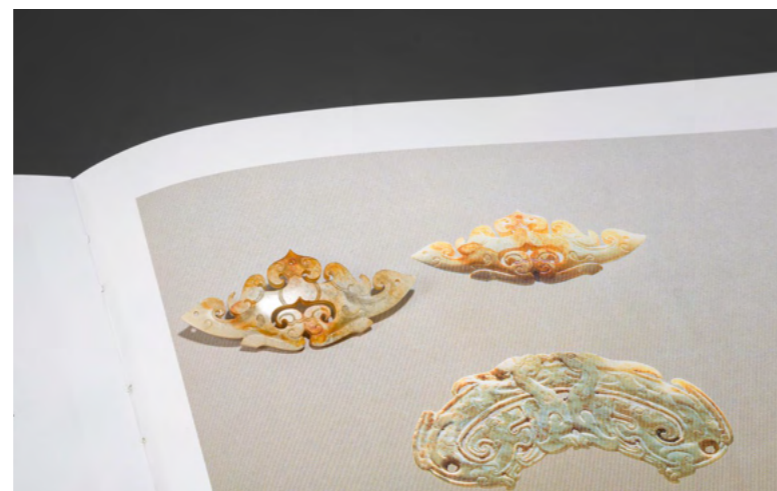
Weight: 43.1 g
 Dimensions: Height 4.8 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related jade ornament with mask, c. 600-476 BC, in the collection of the National Museum of Asian Art, accession number S1987.639.



Purchase for EUR 4,200



Published: Filippo Salviati, *The Language of Adornment: Chinese Ornaments of Jade, Crystal, Amber and Glass from the Neolithic Period to the Qing Dynasty*, Myrna Myers, 2002, no. 41

31
**A LARGE RETICULATED WHITE AND RUSSET JADE PENDANT,
EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY**

China, 770-221 BC. Elaborately carved, the openwork pendant with ten dragons and two serpents, their bodies intricately entwined. The heads and scales of the creatures minutely incised with cross-hatched scales. The top with a central aperture for suspension. The translucent jade has a central white tone, flanked along the edges by mottled russet inclusions with areas of alteration and remnants of red pigment.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with ancient wear, signs of weathering and erosion, minuscule nibbling to edges, and microscopic, smoothened chips. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into small hairline cracks.

Weight: 80 g
Dimensions: Length 12.4 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related jade pendant with dragons and a serpent, 9.1 cm long, dated to the late Eastern Zhou dynasty, in the National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian Institution, accession number S1987.868.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related

Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 31 May 2017, lot 2727

Price: HKD 500,000 or approx.

EUR 67,500 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing

Description: A rare white jade reticulated 'dragon and phoenix' plaque, Warring States period

Expert remark: Compare the related subject with serpents and dragons. Note the different form. Note the smaller size (7 cm).



Purchase for EUR 10,000





32
A BRIGHT GREEN AND RUSSET JADE BELT BUCKLE,
ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 1046-256 BC. Each half finely carved in openwork with a taotie mask framed by wings with curling feathers, the reverse with circular buttons, one terminating in a dragon-head hook, the other with a rectangular aperture. The translucent stone is of a bright green color with few minor russet inclusions and areas of creamy-white colored surface alterations.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with minor wear, signs of weathering and erosion, minuscule nibbling to exposed areas.

Weight: 106.9 g (total)
 Dimensions: 7.2 cm and 6.7 cm

AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 9 July 2020, lot 2884
Price: HKD 425,000 or approx.
EUR 53,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A reticulated white jade 'taotie' belt hook, Warring States period (475-221 BC)
Expert remark: Compare the dragon and taotie design. Note the lot comprises only the hook part, also note the white color, and smaller size (5 cm).



Purchase for EUR 9,000



33
A RECTANGULAR PALE CELADON JADE PLAQUE,
EASTERN ZHOU DYNASTY

China, 8th-3rd century BC. Elaborately carved with interlacing stylized dragons, the rectangular plaque of convex profile densely decorated on both sides. The semi-translucent jade is of a pale celadon tone with gray, russet, and cloudy inclusions.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition, commensurate with age, with ancient wear. Signs of weathering and erosion, soil encrustations suggesting a prolong period of burial, minor nibbling to edges, and one side with a 2.5 x 2.5 cm section of extensive losses.

Weight: 55.8 g
 Dimensions: Length 8.6 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a closely related tubular pendant with interlacing dragons, 6 cm long, dated to the Eastern Zhou dynasty, in the National Museum of Asian Art, accession number S1987.490.



Purchase for EUR 2,200



Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with ancient wear, signs of weathering and erosion, surface scratches around the joints. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into thin hairline cracks. The gilt metal joints with corrosion and surface wear.

Weight: 516 g
 Dimensions: Length 80.7 cm

The Four Guardians (Chin. 'sixiang') are mythological creatures appearing among the Chinese constellations along the ecliptic and viewed as the guardians of the four cardinal directions. They are the Azure Dragon of the East, the Vermilion Bird of the South, the White Tiger of the West, and the Black Tortoise of the North. Each of the creatures is most closely associated with a cardinal direction and a color, but also additionally represents other aspects, including a season of the year, an emotion, virtue, and one of the Chinese 'five elements'. Each has been given its own individual traits, origin story, and a reason for being. Symbolically, and as part of spiritual and religious belief and meaning, these creatures have been culturally important across countries in the Sinosphere.

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related jade belt buckle with a four divine beast pattern, dated to the Eastern Han dynasty, in the National Palace Museum, Taipei, image number K1C001328N000000000PAC.



34
A CELADON AND RUSSET JADE 'FOUR GUARDIANS' BELT,
EASTERN HAN DYNASTY

China, 25-220 AD. The belt comprising eight plaques of rectangular form with rounded corners and an end piece, each finely carved and pierced in low relief with beasts of the four guardians emerging from clouds, including the dragon, the tiger, the vermilion bird, and the turtle. The individual sections connected by incised gilt metal joints (of modern make). The semi-translucent stones are of a deep celadon color with russet and cloudy white inclusions.

Purchase for EUR 32,000



Published: Jean-Paul Desroches, The Beginning of the World. Dragons, Phoenix and Other Chimera, Lienart, Paris, 2020, p. 34-35, no. 11



35

A MOTTLED GREEN JADE 'DRAGON' BELT HOOK, EARLY WESTERN HAN DYNASTY

China, ca. 2nd century BC. The curved shaft is carved in relief with a chilong emerging from a cloud-like surface and flanked by a bear to its left, one side decorated with a dragon in openwork, and the hook terminating in a dragon head. The incised reverse with a circular protrusion incised with scrolls enclosing a hatched diamond. The stone is of a deep green color with beige and cream alterations.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with minor wear, few minuscule losses to exposed areas, little nibbling, signs of weathering and erosion, and soil encrustations. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into thin hairline cracks.

Weight: 123.6 g
 Dimensions: Length 12.6 cm

The same theme occurs on a scabbard slide from the tomb of the King of Nanyue (Guangzhou, Guangdong province), while a sword chape from the same tomb is decorated with a bear biting the tail of a dragon.

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related jade 'dragon' belt hook, dated mid to late Western Han dynasty, in the National Palace Museum, Taiwan, image number K1C009636N000000000PAB.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 31 May 2017, lot 2741
Price: HKD 525,000 or approx.
EUR 70,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A jade 'dragon' belt hook, Han dynasty (206 BC-220 AD)
Expert remark: Compare the related form, carved details, surface alterations, and color of the jade. Note the slightly larger size (14 cm).



Purchase for EUR 12,000



Published: Filippo Salviati, *Radiant Stones: Archaic Chinese Jades*, Myrna Myers, Paris, 2000, no. 142

36

**A LARGE GOLD MOUNTED PALE CELADON
AND RUSSET JADE 'DRAGON AND TIGER' BELT HOOK,
HAN DYNASTY**

China, 206 BC-220 AD. The belt hook finely carved in relief at the top with comma scrolls, bordered by a ridged band to the upper end and terminating in a two horned dragon head to the top and a tiger head to the lower end. The dragon head finely incised with bulging eyes, a menacing expression, and pointed ears; the tiger head with open mouth revealing sharp fangs and a tongue. The button to the reverse is covered in sheet gold. The translucent stone is of a pale celadon color with russet and cloudy white inclusions, and opaque alterations.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.

Condition: Very good condition with surface wear, signs of weathering and erosion, and nibbling. The semi-translucent stone with natural fissures.

Weight: 197.5 g
Dimensions: Length 22.7 cm

The same theme occurs on a scabbard slide from the tomb of the King of Nanyue (Guangzhou, Guangdong province), while a sword chape from the same tomb is decorated with a bear biting the tail of a dragon.

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related jade belt hook with a dragon and a tiger's head, dated to the Eastern Han dynasty, 21.8 cm long, illustrated in *The Complete Collection of Jades Unearthed in China*, vol.1, Beijing, 2005, p. 217.



Purchase for EUR 22,000





37
**A GREEN AND RUSSET 'DRAGON' PENDANT,
 HAN DYNASTY**

China, 206 BC-220 AD. Of flattened S-shape, incised to both sides, the face with bulging eyes above a moustache, surmounted by prominent horns, the body decorated with scrolls within lined borders, a claw emerging from the upper body, and with a curved fin at the chest, the tail ends in an abrupt manner. The mostly translucent stone is of a rich green color with russet inclusions to the lower end.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with minor wear, signs of weathering and erosion, and minuscule nibbling.

Weight: 84.9 g
 Dimensions: Length 11.2 cm

The same theme occurs on a scabbard slide from the tomb of the King of Nanyue (Guangzhou, Guangdong province), while a sword chape from the same tomb is decorated with a bear biting the tail of a dragon.

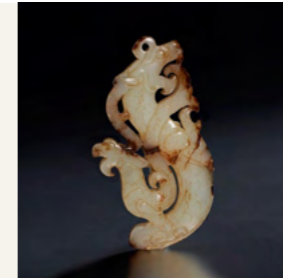
LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a closely related jade 'dragon' pendant, excavated from the King of Chu's tomb in Shizishan, dated to the Western Han dynasty, 17.1 cm long, in the Xuzhou Museum.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's New York, 25 March 2022, lot 706
Price: USD 100,800 or approx.
EUR 102,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A pale greyish-white jade 'dragon and phoenix' pendant, Western Han dynasty (206 BC- 8 AD)
Expert remark: Compare the S-shape and details of the dragon head. Note the different color of the jade and smaller size (6 cm).



Purchase for EUR 15,000

38
**A RETICULATED PALE CELADON JADE
'DOUBLE-DRAGON' PENDANT, HUANG,
EASTERN HAN DYNASTY**

China, 25-220 AD. Elaborately carved in openwork, the arched pendant with two dragons twisting back to face each other, the tails of their sinuous bodies disappearing behind decorations of comma scrolls and archaic designs. The translucent jade is of an even pale celadon hue with icy clouding and small areas of calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Excellent condition with old wear, microscopic nibbling to edges, and soil encrustations. The jade with very few natural fissures.

Weight: 42.3 g
Dimensions: Length 9.4 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a near identical jade Huang pendant with two dragons, 9.4 cm long, dated to the Han dynasty, once a part of the Qing court collection, in the National Palace Museum, illustrated in *The Complete Collection of the Treasures of the Palace Museum: Jadeaware*, Hong Kong, 1995, p. 249, no. 209.



Purchase for EUR 12,000

39

A RETICULATED 'CHILONG AND PHOENIX' IVORY-TONED JADE PENDANT IN THE FORM OF AN ARCHER'S RING, JE, HAN DYNASTY

China, 206 BC-220 AD. Finely carved in openwork, the central archer's ring carved on one side with comma scrolls and raised lines, encompassed by a phoenix and a chilong. The chilong's face finely rendered and with minute incision work along the edge of its legs, its bifurcated tail stretching down the side of the ring. The phoenix with a tall crest and a furcated tail. The opaque stone is of an ivory tone with light russet inclusions.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with minor wear. Minor signs of weathering and erosion, microscopic nibbling to edges.

Weight: 22.5 g
Dimensions: Length 6 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related celadon jade pendant with chilong and phoenix in the form of an archer's ring, 6.9 cm long, dated to the Han dynasty, accession number 50.46.371, in the Minneapolis Institute of Art.



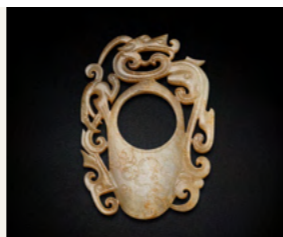
AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Bonhams Hong Kong, 29 May 2024, lot 440
Price: HKD 192,000 or approx.
EUR 23,000 converted at the time of writing
Description: A Jade 'dragon and phoenix' reticulated pendant, Western Han dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related color of jade and the similar form with a phoenix and chilong. Note the larger size (8.2 cm).



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Bonhams Hong Kong, 30 November 2022, lot 4
Price: HKD 318,000 or approx.
EUR 39,500 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A white jade 'dragon and phoenix' pendant, Han dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related from albeit with a slightly different style. Note the different color of jade. Note the larger size (8 cm).



Purchase for EUR 8,500





40
AN ALTERED CELADON JADE ORNAMENT
IN THE FORM OF A SLEEVE DANCER,
HAN DYNASTY

China, 206 BC-220 AD. Of flattened form, boldly incised with a dancer wearing long robes with folds carved vertically down the elongated sleeves. The dancer holding her left arm above her head and her right arm in front in a dynamic motion. Three apertures for mounting. The opaque stone has a celadon tone with alteration throughout.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Signs of weathering and erosion, soil encrustations suggesting a prolonged period of burial, shallow chips to edges, and a repair at the upper part.

Weight: 8.3 g
 Dimensions: Height 4.4 cm

This dancer is dressed in long layered robes with oversized sleeves. She captures the stately motion and austere spirit of the "sleeve-tossing dance" style (chang xiu wu) which featured a continuous, controlled and coordinated movement of the long sleeves. The Han dynasty writer Zhang Hong (78-139) described this dance form in one of his poems:

*Their vermilion slippers danced between plates and goblets
 And they waved their long, dangling sleeves
 With a curvaceous, cultivated bearing
 Their lovely dresses fluttered like flowers in the wind*

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related jade pendant in the form of a dancer, 6.3 cm high, dated to the late Western Han dynasty, in the National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian Institution, accession number S1987.848. Compare a related jade ornament in the form of a female dancer, 9 cm high, dated to the Western Han dynasty, in the National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian Institution, accession number S2012.9.2755.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Bonhams Hong Kong, 29 May 2024, lot 441
Price: HKD 51,200 or approx. **EUR 6,100** converted at the time of writing
Description: A beige jade carving of a dancing figure, Western Han dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related form and style. Note the openwork. Note the similar size (4.8 cm).



Purchase for EUR 2,100



Published: Filippo Salviati, The Language of Adornment: Chinese Ornaments of Jade, Crystal, Amber and Glass from the Neolithic Period to the Qing Dynasty, Myrna Myers, 2002, no. 58



41
A STYLIZED LIGHT GRAY JADE CICADA,
WESTERN HAN PERIOD

China, 2nd-1st century BC. The highly stylized cicada with crisply carved facets, together with the two incised lines near the top and a small notch in the center near the upper section forming the body parts of the insect, the reverse undecorated. The mostly opaque stone of a light gray tone with ivory and dark gray inclusions and veins.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with signs of weathering and erosion, as well as minor nibbling. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into thin hairline cracks.

Weight: 19.3 g
 Dimensions: Length 4.5 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a jade cicada, dated Western Han dynasty, in the National Palace Museum, Taipei, image number K1C001954N000000000PB8.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Bonhams New York, 20 September 2021, lot 142
Price: USD 3,825 or approx. **EUR 4,100** converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A stylized partially calcified celadon jade cicada, Han dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related form, size (5 cm), simplified stylistic design with three ridges indicating the insects body parts, and undecorated underside.



Purchase for EUR 1,500



Published: Filippo Salviati, Radiant Stones: Archaic Chinese Jades, Myrna Myers, Paris, 2000, no. 123



42
A DARK GREEN JADE 'DRAGON' PENDANT,
XI, WARRING STATES PERIOD TO WESTERN
HAN DYNASTY

China, 5th century BC to 1st century AD. Of flattened form and crescent shape, finely carved in openwork as a dragon in profile with its head depicted with a circular eye, open jaw and a curled crest. Its body tapering to a pointed tail. The semi-translucent stone is of a dark green hue with cloudy inclusions, russet veining, and calcification.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.

Condition: Very good condition, commensurate with age. Old wear, signs of weathering and erosion, soil encrustations, most certainly from a prolonged period of burial, and minor nibbling to edges.

Weight: 16 g
 Dimensions: Length 10 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a near identical jade pendant in the form of a crescent-shape dragon, 12.5 cm long, dated to the Warring States period, once a part of the Qing court collection, in the National Palace Museum, illustrated in *The Complete Collection of the Treasures of the Palace Museum: Jadeaware*, Hong Kong, 1995, p. 184, no. 153. Compare a related jade Huang in the shape of a dragon, 6 cm long, dated to the 3rd century BC, in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, accession number 2008.285.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 29 November 2022, lot 2730
Price: HKD 945,000 or approx.
EUR 116,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A pair of jade reticulated 'dragon' pendants, Xi, Western Han dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related subject with crescent shaped dragons similarly modeled. Note this lot consists of a pair.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Sotheby's Hong Kong, 8 April 2023, lot 3829
Price: HKD 254,000 or approx.
EUR 30,500 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A grayish-white jade 'dragon' pendant, Eastern Zhou dynasty, Warring States period – Han dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related style and subject. Compare the similar weathering. Note the slightly smaller size (8.5 cm).



Purchase for EUR 5,500



43
A CELADON AND RUSSET JADE
'MYTHICAL BEASTS' STEM CUP,
HAN DYNASTY

China, 206 BC to 220 AD. The gently flaring sides raised on a tall slender foot with a circular base, set to one side with a loop handle with a sharply upswept spur, the body decorated in relief within two bands, separated by incised bowstrings, each band depicting sinuously carved mythical animals chasing each other. The translucent celadon jade with rich deep brown inclusions and veins.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.

Condition: Very good condition with minor wear, commensurate with age. Natural imperfections, tiny nicks, few abrasions to the foot and rim, some nibbling along the edges, and few fissures which have developed into hairline cracks.

Weight: 162.8 g
 Dimensions: Height 12.1 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a closely related jade cup, early to middle Western Han dynasty, 267-74 BC, in the collection of the National Palace Museum, Taiwan, image number K1C002121N00000000PAE.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Bonhams Los Angeles, 14 December 2020, lot 136
Price: USD 15,300 or approx.
EUR 17,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A delicate carved jade handled libation cup, Western Han dynasty or later
Expert remark: Compare the related form and similar circular loop handle with a sharp upswept spur. Note the similar size (14.3 cm).



Purchase for EUR 7,500



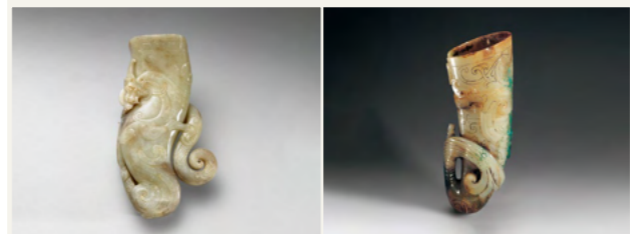
44
**AN IMPORTANT PALE CELADON
JADE RHYTON WITH DRAGONS,
HAN DYNASTY**

China, 206 BC-220 AD. The jade hollowed to form a slender cup raised on a flat, slightly curved foot, the body incised with a dragon amid archaic scrolls, the handle carved in high relief as a dragon, its head twisted to face the holder, and another dragon below the curved spout, and flanked by an angled scroll. The semi-translucent stone is of a pale celadon, almost white, color, with icy inclusions, and a dark gray and brown patch. Remnants of metal mountings with extensive natural patina encrusting the vessel in several areas.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Good condition with ancient wear, signs of weathering and erosion, few minute chips to exposed areas, nibbling, metal and soil encrustations. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into thin hairline cracks.

Weight: 517.5 g
Dimensions: Height 15 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON
Compare a related jade rhyton with dragon and phoenix pattern, dated early Western Han dynasty, in the National Palace Museum, Taipei, image number K1C002790N000000000PAK. Compare also a related jade rhyton, Han dynasty, in the Nanyue King Museum, Guangzhou.



Purchase for EUR 28,000





45
**A PALE CELADON AND RUSSET JADE
'DOUBLE DRAGON' CUP, HAN DYNASTY**

China, 206 BC-220 AD. The shallow cup of oval cross section, framed at the upper rim with a band of scaly dragons amid scrolling clouds, the well finely incised with stylized dragons below a double-lined rim. The semi-translucent stone is of a pale celadon color with russet inclusions, few dark gray specks, and opaque weathering marks.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with surface wear, signs of weathering and erosion, tiny losses and nibbles. The stone with natural fissures, some of which have developed into thin cracks. One small chip at the rim reattached.

Weight: 283.3 g
Dimensions: Length 17 cm

Purchase for EUR 12,000



46

AN IMPORTANT COMPLETE FOUR-PART SWORD FITTING SET OF PALE CELADON AND RUSSET JADE 'CHILONG AND PHOENIX', WESTERN HAN DYNASTY

China, 206 BC- 8 AD. Consisting of a pommel, sword guard, scabbard slide, and scabbard chape, each finely carved with chilong and phoenix. The sinuous bodies of the chilong disappearing and reappearing from beneath the jade, and the phoenix heads along the pommel, slide, and chape with long curling crests. The verso of the chape and sword guard incised with taotie masks and comma scrolls. The translucent jade is of a pale celadon tone with russet veins and clouding, as well as icy inclusions.

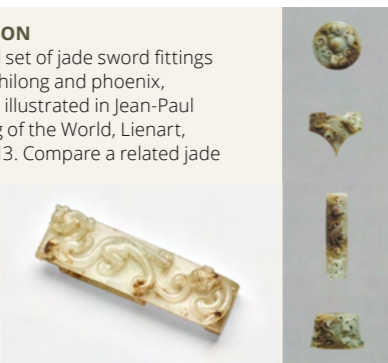
Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.

Condition: Very good condition, commensurate with age, with old wear, minor nibbling to edges, and few minuscule nicks. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into small hairline cracks.

Weight: 93.7 g (pommel), 46.4 g (guard), 87.8 g (slide), 84 g (chape)
Dimensions:
Length 6.6 cm (pommel), 7 cm (guard), 11 cm (slide), 6.9 cm (chape)

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a closely related set of jade sword fittings similarly decorated with chilong and phoenix, dated to the Han dynasty, illustrated in Jean-Paul Desroches, *The Beginning of the World*, Lienart, Paris, 2020, p. 36-38, no. 13. Compare a related jade scabbard slide carved with chilong, 9.5 cm long, dated to the Han dynasty, in the National Museum of Asian Art, Smithsonian Institution, accession number S1987.787.



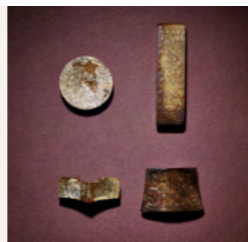
AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 31 May 2017, lot 2711
Price: HKD 8,460,000 or approx.
EUR 1,139,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: An important set of three jade 'chilong' sword fittings and a jade sword guard, Western Han dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related motifs with chilong and taotie masks. Note the different style. Note the smaller size (scabbard slide 8.8 cm).



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 29 November 2022, lot 2750
Price: HKD 504,000 or approx.
EUR 62,500 converted at the time of writing
Description: A very rare complete set of four jade sword fittings, Western Han dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related form and taotie-mask motif. Note the absence of chilong. Note the similar size (scabbard slide 9.5 cm).



Purchase for EUR 32,000





47
A CELADON AND RUSSET JADE 'FOUR GUARDIANS' WEIGHT, EASTERN HAN DYNASTY

China, 25-220 AD. Deftly carved around the upper surface of the pebble with the four guardians, including a dragon, a tiger, a two-headed turtle, and a vermilion bird, all emerging from scrolling clouds. The flat underside is finely incised with an abstract, scrolling design. The semi-translucent stone is of an even celadon color with opaque russet, creamy white, and dark brown areas.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with surface wear, signs of weathering and erosion, nibbling, and a few minuscule chips to exposed areas. The stone with natural fissures, some of which have developed into thin hairline cracks.

Weight: 201.9 g
 Dimensions: Length 8.2 cm

The Four Guardians (Chin. 'sixiang') are mythological creatures appearing among the Chinese constellations along the ecliptic and viewed as the guardians of the four cardinal directions. They are the Azure Dragon of the East, the Vermilion Bird of the South, the White Tiger of the West, and the Black Tortoise of the North. Each of the creatures is most closely associated with a cardinal direction and a color, but also additionally represents other aspects, including a season of the year, an emotion, virtue, and one of the Chinese 'five elements'. Each has been given its own individual traits, origin story and a reason for being. Symbolically, and as part of spiritual and religious belief and meaning, these creatures have been culturally important across countries in the Sinosphere.

LITERATURE COMPARISON
 Compare a related jade belt buckle with dragons and three-headed turtle carved in relief, dated to the Eastern Han dynasty, in the National Palace Museum, Taipei, image number K1C001328N000000000PAC.



Purchase for EUR 12,000





48
A PALE CELADON JADE 'BEAR AND TIGER' MAT WEIGHT, HAN DYNASTY

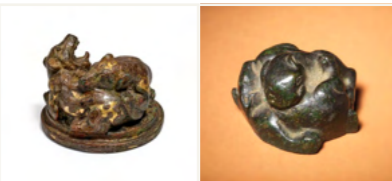
China, 206 BC-220 AD. Carved in the round, depicting a bear and tiger, each tightly coiled around the other, the bear laying on its back, its head raised with the mouth ajar revealing sharp fangs below a wide snout and bulging eyes, and grasping the tiger's ear with his paw. The tiger resting his head on the bear's belly, the face incised with almond shaped eyes and detailed with a circular ear. The translucent stone is of a pale celadon color with few russet inclusions and some areas of surface alteration.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with minor wear, soil encrustations, and signs of weathering and erosion. The stone with natural fissures, some of which have developed into hairline cracks.

Weight: 238.5 g
 Dimensions: Length 7.1 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a closely related bronze weight with tiger and bear, Han dynasty, sold at Bonhams, London, 5 November 2009, lot 19. Compare also a closely related inlaid bronze weight with tiger and bear, Han dynasty, sold at Bonhams, New York, 21 March 2022, lot 210.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Bonhams Hong Kong, 30 May 2017, lot 54
Price: HKD 2,340,000 or approx.
EUR 314,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: An exceptionally rare jade mythical bird scroll weight, Eastern Han Dynasty or later
Expert remark: Compare the form. Note the slightly smaller size (6.5 cm).



Purchase for EUR 9,000



49
A GREEN AND RUSSET JADE 'BIXIE' SEAL, HAN DYNASTY

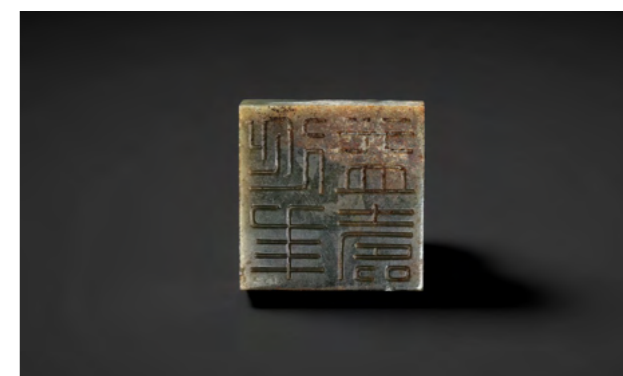
China, 206 B-220 AD. The square seal platform surmounted by a ferocious crouching bixie, superbly and vividly carved with a writhing body showing a fierce expression with bulging eyes, open mouth, bearded chin, and a spiraling horn. The underside carved with 'Yishou Yannian (Promise longevity)'. The semi-translucent stone is of a deep green tone with russet inclusions, and surface alterations.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with minor wear, few minuscule chips to the edges, nibbling, corrosion, and signs of weathering and erosion.

Weight: 234 g
 Dimensions: Size 5.4 x 5.1 x 5 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a similar jade seal also vividly carved, with a crouching tiger, as the knob, Western Han dynasty, excavated from the tomb of Liu Sheng, Prince of Zhongshan in Mancheng, Hebei Province, illustrated in *The Complete Collection of Jades Unearthed in China*, vol.1, Beijing, 2010, p.195.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Bonhams Hong Kong, 30 May 2017, lot 52
Price: HKD 1,062,500 or approx.
EUR 141,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A very rare jade 'crouching tiger' seal, Han Dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related subject. Note the smaller size (2.4 cm). Note the smaller size (9 cm).



Purchase for EUR 9,000

50

**A CELADON JADE FIGURE OF A BEAR,
EASTERN HAN DYNASTY**

China, 25-220 AD. Finely carved as a seated bear scratching his ear with his left paw, the head lowered and framed by fur hair, the fleshy body finely incised with V-shaped lines suggesting fur, and the paws with claws. The mostly translucent stone is of an even celadon tone with cloudy white and russet inclusions, as well as cream-colored weathering marks.

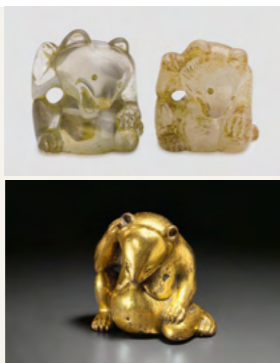
Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with minor wear, signs of weathering and erosion, and minor nibbling. The stone with natural fissures.

Weight: 132.7 g
Dimensions: Height 5.5 cm

Bears were depicted in Chinese art at least as early as the Shang dynasty and have been a popular totemic emblem since ancient times. From the Han dynasty (206 BC-AD 220) onwards, and probably even much earlier, bears have also been linked with military prowess, shamanism, and immortality. It might be noted that the words for 'bear' and 'virility' are exact homonyms, pronounced in Chinese as 'xiong'.

LITERATURE COMPARISON

The subject of a seated bear scratching his ear was quite popular in the Han dynasty and was created in different materials, including rock crystals and gilt bronze amongst others. Compare two rock crystal bears, dated to the Han dynasty, sold at Bonhams Los Angeles, 14 December 2020, lot 419. Also compare a gilt-bronze figure of a bear, dated to the Western Han dynasty, sold at Christie's New York, 17 March 2015, lot 1.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Galerie Zacke Vienna, 15 October 2021, lot 77
Price: EUR 27,808 or approx.
EUR 31,000 adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A pale celadon jade figure of a bear, Eastern Han dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the seated pose with lowered head and the related color of the jade. Note the smaller size (4.4 cm).



Purchase for EUR 22,000





51
**A RARE CELADON AND RUSSET
 JADE FIGURE OF A TURTLEDOVE,
 JIU, HAN DYNASTY**

China, 206 BC-220 AD. Skillfully carved and reticulated in the form of a single-horned bird, with a short, incurved beak, the head turned back, its plumage marked with fine incisions and its claws neatly tucked beneath. The semi-translucent stone is of an even celadon color with few minor russet and brown inclusions and areas of creamy-white alterations.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with minor wear, little surface alterations, and very minor nibbling.

Weight: 76.9 g
 Dimensions: Length 6 cm

The single-horned mythical bird which can be identified as a jiu or turtledove, is more typically represented in the carvings of staff finials from the Mid-Western Han to the Eastern Han period.

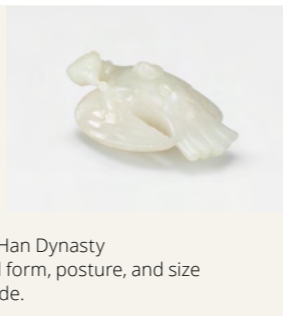
In Chinese legend, Liu Bang (circa 256-195 BC), emperor Gaozu of the Han dynasty, was once assisted by a divine turtledove to escape from his arch-rival Xiang Yu (232-202 BC) and thus the bird became a symbol of benevolent rule and heavenly protection. Staffs or swords with jade mythical bird finials were also recorded in Han dynasty literature as special gifts given to the elders of the aristocracy to manifest benevolent and imperial protection.

It is much rarer to find jade mythical birds carved in the round such as the present lot. See a related white jade mythical bird, Western Han dynasty, excavated from the tomb of the emperor Yuan of Han in Xianyang, Shaanxi Province, illustrated in *ibid.*, p.160; a further jade turtledove, Han dynasty, is illustrated in the *Compendium of Collections in the Palace Museum: Jade 4 Han, Wei, Jin, Southern and Northern Dynasties*, Beijing, 2011, p.182, no.238.

LITERATURE COMPARISON
 Compare a related celadon jade staff pommel in form of a turtledove, 1st century BC - 2nd century AD, mid-Western Han to Eastern Han period, in the National Palace Museum Taipei, image number K1C005676N000000000PAD.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON
Type: Related
Auction: Bonhams Hong Kong, 28 May 2019, lot 107
Price: HKD 2,188,125 or approx.
EUR 283,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: An exceptionally rare white jade mythical bird carving, Han Dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the related form, posture, and size (5.5 cm). Note the white color of the jade.



Purchase for EUR 15,000



52
**A PALE YELLOW AND RUSSET
JADE PENDANT OF A PHOENIX,
HAN DYNASTY**

China, 206 BC-220 AD. The phoenix carved with its head turned to the side, flanked by finely incised wings, the feet tucked below the body, and pierced horizontally for suspension at the chest. The semi-translucent stone is of a pale yellow tone with russet patches.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with old wear, signs of weathering and erosion, and minor nibbling.

Weight: 156 g
Dimensions: Length 10 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a related jade figure of a turtledove, dated Mid-Western Han to Eastern Han period, in the National Palace Museum, Taiwan, image number K1C005676N000000000PAC.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Christie's New York, 21 September 2023, lot 801
Price: USD 126,000 or approx.
EUR 118,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing

Description: A very rare and important pale greenish-white and grey jade figure of a recumbent bird, Han dynasty (206 BC-AD 220)

Expert remark: Compare the related subject, form, and material. Note the color of the jade and smaller size (8.6 cm).



Purchase for EUR 18,000



53
**A PALE CELADON JADE FIGURE OF A BIXIE,
HAN DYNASTY**

China, 206 BC-220 AD. The mythical beast in an aggressive stance ready to pounce, with its head turned left and jaws wide open, the muscular body framed by a pair of wings and with a curled tail. The semi-translucent stone is of a pale celadon tone with yellowish highlights, cloudy white inclusions, and surface alterations.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with minor wear, a minuscule chip to one claw and the mouth, signs of weathering and erosion, and soil encrustations. The stone with natural fissures, some of which have developed into hairline cracks.

Weight: 272.8 g
Dimensions: Length 9.5 cm

LITERATURE COMPARISON
A closely related carved jade bixie, also dated to the Han dynasty in the Palace Museum, Beijing, is illustrated in *The Complete Collection of Treasures of the Palace Museum, Jade ware (I)*, Hong Kong, 1995, p. 240-241, no. 201.



AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON
Type: Related
Auction: Christie's Hong Kong, 9 July 2020, lot 2867
Price: HKD 1,000,000 or approx.
EUR 124,000 converted and adjusted for inflation at the time of writing
Description: A rare jade bixie, Han dynasty (206 BC-AD 220)
Expert remark: Compare the related subject, posture, color of the jade, and fine incision work. Note the smaller size (8.2 cm).



Purchase for EUR 15,000





54
A CELADON JADE FIGURE OF A BIXIE,
HAN DYNASTY

China, 206 BC-220 AD. Skillfully rendered in the form of a crouching bixie, the mythical beast portrayed staring intensely through bulging eyes below thick curling eyebrows, above a well pronounced snout and agape mouth baring its fangs, the muscular body picked out with fine incisions, further depicted with a furcated tail. The semi-translucent stone is of a celadon tone with yellowish to light russet highlights and with cream-colored weathering marks, as well as remnants of pigment.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with minor wear, signs of weathering and erosion, and soil encrustations. The stone with natural fissures, some of which have developed into thin hairline cracks.

Weight: 67.3 g
 Dimensions: Length 6.6 cm

AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
Auction: Sotheby's Hong Kong,
 2 April 2018, lot 3416
Estimate: HKD 3,000,000 or approx.
EUR 393,000 converted and adjusted
 for inflation at the time of writing



Description: A powerfully carved and rare celadon jade figure of a Bixie, Eastern Han dynasty
Expert remark: Compare the powerful posture, finely carved details, and color of the jade. Note the larger size (9 cm).

Purchase for EUR 7,000

55
A RARE PAIR OF WHITE JADE BUDDHIST LIONS,
HAN DYNASTY

China, 206 BC-220 AD. Each skillfully carved in a recumbent position, the heads raised and incised with wide snouts above sharp fangs, circular eyes framed by bushy eyebrows, and each with a beard curling from the chin. The backs incised with circles along the spine and long fur hairs terminating in a well-defined, bushy tail. The translucent stones are of a white color, with few russet inclusions.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with minor wear, few minuscule nicks here and there, and signs of weathering and erosion. The stones with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into thin hairline cracks.

Weight: 40 g and 40.7 g
 Dimensions: Length 5.6 cm and 5.8 cm

Purchase for EUR 8,500



AN IMPORTANT RARE PAIR OF
GREEN AND RUSSET JADE BIXIE FIGURES,
HAN DYNASTY





56
AN IMPORTANT RARE PAIR OF
GREEN AND RUSSET JADE BIXIE FIGURES,
HAN DYNASTY

China, 206 BC-220 AD. Each skillfully rendered in the form of a crouching bixie, the mythical beasts portrayed staring intensely through bulging eyes below thick curling eyebrows, above a well pronounced snout and agape mouth baring its fangs, the muscular body picked out with fine incisions, the feet flanked by wings, and further depicted with a ridged tail curling between the hindlegs. The semi-translucent stone is of a sea-green tone with cream-colored alterations, russet inclusions and sparse dark gray specks.

Provenance: From the Sam and Myrna Myers Collection.
Condition: Very good condition with surface wear, signs of weathering and erosion, remnants of black pigments, little soil encrustations, and nibbling. The stone with natural fissures, some of which may have developed into thin hairline cracks.

Weight: 543.9 g and 515.5 g
 Dimensions: Length 11.5 cm and 11.8 cm

The Han dynasty saw the emergence of a rich sculptural tradition that developed from a heightened interest in the representation of animals and fabulous beasts in durable materials. The spread of Daoist philosophy and the pursuit of immortality among the upper echelons of Han society had a dramatic impact on the production and consumption of such sculptures. Monumental stone sculptures of animals and their small jade counterparts were found at Han dynasty burial sites and are believed to have served the function of protecting their owner and

leading the way to paradise. It has been suggested that these animals may have been displayed within the tomb as inhabitants of a miniature paradise landscape, as similar depictions are known on contemporary bronze incense burners.

AUCTION RESULT COMPARISON

Type: Related
 Auction: Christie's Hong Kong,
 29 November 2022, lot 2748
Price: HKD 26,850,000 or approx.
EUR 3,313,000 converted and
 adjusted for inflation at the time of
 writing

Description: An exceedingly rare
 and exceptional jade carving of a
 mythical beast, Bixie, late Western Han dynasty, c. 1st century BC
Expert remark: Compare the crouching pose, two horns,
 and similar size (7.2 cm).



Purchase for EUR 52,000