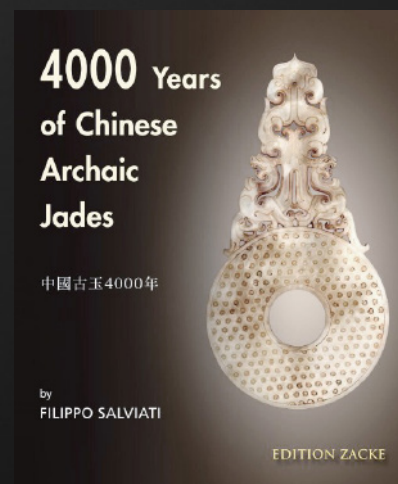


ZACKE

SINCE 1968



Jades
from the
Private
Collections
of Professor
Filippo Salviati
and Irene &
Wolfgang Zacke



Published on the cover of Filippo Salviati,
4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades,
Edition Zacke, Vienna 2017

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Jades from the
Private Collections
of Professor Filippo Salviati
and Irene & Wolfgang Zacke

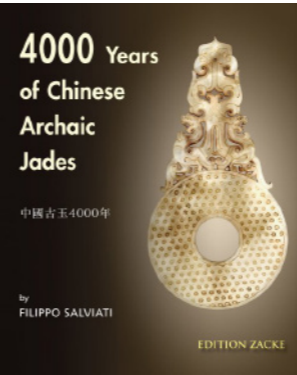
The time has come for our bi-annual private sale, and we are happy to present you with a fine selection of jades from the private collections of Irene & Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022) and Professor Filippo Salviati.

As always, all the jades in this sale were **authenticated and dated by Professor Salviati**.



Irene Zacke and Professor Filippo Salviati

4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades



The author of this book, Professor Filippo Salviati, has worked with Galerie Zacke as an academic and scientific advisor for well over ten years, studying countless jades offered and consigned to us first-hand and providing invaluable expertise during this period.

The idea for 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades was first conceived in 2014 and after a painstaking three-year process, the book featuring 352 jades and almost 400 photographs was published in 2017. It presents all relevant development in the jade-carving tradition of ancient China from the late Neolithic to the Han dynasty. Each jade is described and set within its proper cultural context and compared to examples that were excavated from archaeological sites in China or housed in major museum collections all over the world.

Six of the 32 lots offered in this Private Sale have been published in this sophisticated and comprehensive book, including the cover piece.



- No. 3 is a jade cong-form bead from the Liangzhu culture, published as no. 68a
- No. 6 is a three-section jade disc from the Qijia culture, published as no. 123
- No. 12 is a tiger-shaped pendant from the Spring and Autumn, published as no. 194
- No. 25 is a white jade 'dragon' ornament from the Western Han dynasty, published as no. 278
- No. 26 is a superb white jade 'dragon' disc from the Western Han dynasty, published as no. 288 and on the front cover
- No. 27 is a white jade 4-part sword fitting set from the Western Han dynasty, published as no. 318

1 | A JADE ‘PIG-DRAGON’ PENDANT, ZHULONG

Jade. China, Hongshan culture, c. 4500-3000 BC

The celadon-green jade with brownish areas depicts a coiled dragon, also known as “pig-dragon”, with large, round eyes and a characteristically snout.

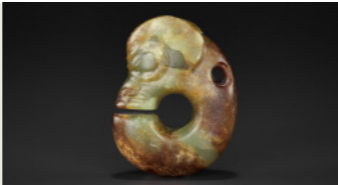
Jades worked in the round in the shape of coiled creatures with dragon-looking features are probably the most famous of all Hongshan carvings and have somehow become the visual symbol of this late Neolithic culture.

These jades, primarily discovered in graves of the Niuheliang site, have been found placed in the chest area of the deceased, suggesting that they were worn as pendants and hung through the hole drilled behind the head.

In Chinese, the animal carved on these jades is often called zhulong or ‘pig dragon’, because its head resembles that of a pig or a wild boar, and its serpentine, thick body that of a coiled dragon.

AUCTION COMPARISON

Compare with a related zhulong jade of similar size at Zackle, Vienna, Fine Chinese Art, Buddhism and Hinduism, 25 April 2020, lot 173 (sold for EUR 19,952).



HEIGHT 5.1 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zackle (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 5,400



2 | A MOTTLED OPAQUE JADE CONG, LIANGZHU

Jade. China, Neolithic Period, Liangzhu culture, 3rd millennium BC

The thick-walled cong is finely carved with four squared, projecting corners each divided into two registers. The opaque stone is of ochre and iron-red color.

The upper register with a mask of two raised bands with parallel lines above a pair of incised circular eyes and a simplified nose formed by a small band with rounded ends, the lower register with a similar mask, but lacking the two raised bands and with larger eyes instead.

Cong carved with two registers presenting both types of masks have been discovered in some of the most important Liangzhu sites, such as Sidun (Wujin, Jiangsu), Fanshan (Yuhang, Zhejiang) and Fuquanshan (Qingpu, Shanghai). See Zhejiang Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology, Liangzhu wenhua yuqi (Jades of the Liangzhu Culture), Beijing 1990 nos. 10, 11, 15, 18, 19, 22 and 24.



LITERATURE COMPARISON

For additional examples of two-tiered cong see Prof. Filippo Salviati, 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades, 2017, nos. 51, 53 and 54.



HEIGHT 5.3 cm, DIAMETER 8 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zackle (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 4,500

3 | A JADE CONG-FORM BEAD, LIANGZHU CULTURE

Jade. China, Neolithic period, Liangzhu culture, c. 3300-2200 BC

Published: Filippo Salviati, 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades, Edition Zacke, Vienna 2017, p. 62, no. 68a.

The tubular bead is carved in the form of a two-tiered miniature cong, drilled vertically from both sides. Both registers are carved with a stylized mask at each of the four corners.

The opaque stone is of a beige tone with russet veins.

AUCTION COMPARISON
Compare a closely related cong-form jade bead at Christie's Hong Kong, The Chang Wei-Hwa Collection of Archaic Jades, Part I – The Neolithic Period, 27 November 2019, lot 2723 (**sold for HKD 525,000**).

HEIGHT 5 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 2,200



4 | A MINIATURE JADE CONG-FORM BEAD, LIANGZHU CULTURE

Jade. China, Liangzhu culture, c. 3300-2200 BC

This jade is carved as a two-tiered miniature cong. Despite the small size, the bead is finely worked with typical features seen on larger cong, each register incised with stylized masks at each of the four corners. The translucent pale green jade with areas of opaque calcification.

AUCTION COMPARISON
For another cong-form jade bead see Christie's Hong Kong, The Chang Wei-Hwa Collection of Archaic Jades, Part I – The Neolithic Period, 27 November 2019 lot 2723 (**sold for HKD 525,000**).

HEIGHT 3.9 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 4,200



5 | A JADE BI DISC, LIANGZHU

Jade. China, Liangzhu culture, c. 3300-2200 BC

The opaque stone with calcification and of a grayish-beige color with russet patches and veins. The stone further with several nicks and minor losses along the edge.

LITERATURE COMPARISON
Two related bi discs, showing similar alterations, are in the collection of the Freer-Sackler Galleries, Washington, D.C., accession nos. F1918.23 and F1918.22.

AUCTION COMPARISON
Compare with a related bi disc, but of slightly smaller size, at Christie's, New York, Fine Chinese Art from the Arthur M. Sackler Collections, 18 March 2009, lot 284 (**sold for USD 104,500**).

DIAMETER 19.5 cm, INNER DIAMETER 4.7 cm

Provenance: Private collection of Professor Filippo Salviati.

Purchase for EUR 4,200

6 | A THREE-SECTION JADE DISC, QIJIA

Jade. China, Early Bronze Age, Qijia culture, c. 2200-1600 BC

Published: Filippo Salviati, 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades, Edition Zacke, Vienna 2017, pp. 102-103, no. 123.

The jade is of good quality, mostly creamy white and translucent, with patches of light yellow and darker veins and speckles.

Instead of being carved from a single piece of jade, this disc is formed by three arched segments, probably sliced from the same block of raw material. Each arched segment has both ends drilled with one and two holes, respectively: when the three segments are joined together to form a disc, the ends with one hole match those drilled with two.

Such composite discs, formed by two to four segments and of varying dimensions, have been found in several burials of the Qijia culture, which developed in North-west China, and represent one of the most characteristic type of jades of this late Neolithic culture. Qijia sites which have yielded three-section discs like the present one include Zhaocun, in Tianshuishi, Gansu province, and Minhelajia, in Qinghai province. Here, tomb M17 has yielded two examples of such discs: in the first instance the three segments have been found buried in the soil and composed in

the shape of the disc, while in the second the three portions were stacked one upon the other. This suggests that these peculiar items were either composed in a single shape or used independently as ornaments.

LITERATURE COMPARISON
Discs in three sections such as the present lots are in the National Museum of History, Taiwan (acc. no. 89-00038), in the Harvard Art Museum (acc. no. 1943.50.602.A-C) and in the Kwan collection.

AUCTION COMPARISON
A similar three-part disc of smaller size and in green jade, part of the Robert H. Ellsworth collection, was auctioned at Christie's New York, 19 March 2015, The Collection of Robert Hatfield Ellsworth Part III – Chinese Works of Art: Qing Ceramics, Glass and Jade Carvings, lot 505 (**sold for 5,625 USD**).

DIAMETER 17.5 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 6,500





7 | A MINIATURE GREEN JADE CONG, QIJIA

Jade. China, early Bronze Age, Qijia culture, c. 2200-1600 BC

This cong's form is simply classic. Very clearly balanced and completely smooth. The jade itself, on the contrary, features an unusual coloration and an extremely lively marbling. The form is cubical, the smooth sides nonetheless somewhat curved. The jade is green with dense marbling, almost turning black in some areas.

Cong from the Qijia culture are usually plain, as the present piece, but they may occasionally be decorated with series of parallel ridges in relief that are either carved at the corners, or all around the cong.

SIZE 4.3 x 5 x 5 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 1,500

8 | A GREEN AND BROWN MOTTLED JADE RING

Jade. China, Early Bronze Age, c. 2200-1600 BC

This green jade ring presents numerous dots and large patches of different nuances of color which range from light to dark brown, russet and black.

DIAMETER 8.6 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 1,500





9 | **A 'LIZARD' JADE PENDANT, SHANG**

Jade. China, Shang dynasty, c. 1600-1050 BC

The jade pendant is of flattened form and carved as a crouching lizard in profile with a pointed tail. The eyes, spine, neck and limbs are detailed with raised designs. The underside with two holes for suspension. The green jade is almost entirely calcified, showing intense white marbling.

LENGTH 8.2 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022), acquired at China Guardian Auctions, Hong Kong, 30 May 2017, lot 1137 (dated to the Neolithic period).

Purchase for EUR 3,200



10 | **A MINIATURE WHITE AND
RUSSET JADE 'DRAGON'
PENDANT, EASTERN ZHOU**

China, Eastern Zhou dynasty, c. 5th-4th century BC

This adorable little dragon-shaped pendant has a very simple crescent shape with a pointed tail exhibiting splendid curvature and touching its nose. The dragon has its mouth opened. The surface is worked with finely interlinked and raised curls. The jade is white with russet patches throughout, turning dark red towards the tail.

LENGTH 4.3 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 1,800



11 | **A JADE 'DRAGON'
ORNAMENT, EASTERN ZHOU**

Jade. China, Eastern Zhou, 770 - 221 BC

Carved as a sinuous dragon with arched body, its open mouth touching its tail. The body of the dragon is decorated with c-shaped scrolls. The stone of white tone with russet brown inclusions.

LENGTH 7 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 2,200



12 | **A TIGER-SHAPED PENDANT,
SPRING AND AUTUMN PERIOD**

Jade. China, Eastern Zhou, Spring and Autumn, 6th – 5th century BC

Finely carved as a tiger with slightly arched body, curling tail and paws. Two holes are drilled in the tail and in the head. The design is rather sketchy, with just a couple of indentations to suggest the mouth and chin that are highlighted by the curls incised on the surface. The body is completely covered with variously shaped scrolls, some resembling stylized dragon heads, interspersed with striped bands and scale-like motifs. These additional elements of the design suggest that the pattern is actually a mixture of different though unrecognizable animals. The translucent stone is of green tone with brownish shadings and areas of calcification.

A tiger-shaped jade carved with a similar surface decoration was excavated in 1992 at Yimen, Baoji, Shaanxi, from a 6th century tomb (M2:128) of the Qin state, which eventually unified China at the end of the Warring States period. Still in 1992, two other examples, identical to the one from Baoji, were discovered in southern China in a late Spring and Autumn tomb at Hushuguan, Zheshan, near the city of Suzhou, Jiangsu province, within the realm of the ancient Wu state.

LENGTH 7 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 6,500



Published: Filippo Salviati, 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades, Edition Zacke, Vienna 2017, pp. 176-177, no 194.

13 | **A GREEN JADE 'DRAGON' PENDANT, EASTERN ZHOU**

Jade. China, Eastern Zhou, 7th-3rd century

The jade carved in the form of a dragon, with circular eyes, a snout-like nose and comma spirals decorated to the s-shaped body that terminates in a coiled tail reminiscent of a phoenix head.

The semi-translucent stone is of a pale to dark green tone with white and cream-colored areas of calcification.

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Compare a dragon-shaped jade pendant from the Myers collection, dated to the Eastern Zhou period, published in Filippo Salviati, Radiant Stones: Archaic Chinese Jades, 2004, Hon Kong, no. 98.



LENGTH 12.7 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 6,200



14 | **A PAIR OF JADE 'DRAGON' PENDANTS, HUANG, CHU STATE**

Jade. China, Eastern Zhou, late Spring and Autumn period, 6th-5th century BC

Of slightly arched and flattened form, the pendants carved in relief with interlinked comma spirals framed by raised borders, all below two confronting dragons with sinuous bodies and curling tails, their features neatly incised.

The mostly opaque stone is of a beige to pale gray tone with extensive patches of dark russet-brown and grayish-black tone as well as cloudy inclusions.

The closest comparable example for the present lot is a jade huang (see fig. 1) unearthed from a Warring States tomb in the ancient city of Qufu in Shandong Province. Qufu was once the capital of the Zhou-dynasty Lu state and the hometown of Confucius.



Furthermore, the type of design, style, and stone are typical of the jades from the Chu cultural region, such as those discovered in the Xiong family tomb at Jingzhou, Hubei.

Chu was a Zhou dynasty vassal state. Their first ruler was King Wu of Chu in the early 8th century BC. Chu was located in the south of the Zhou heartland and existed mostly during the Spring and Autumn period. At the end of the Warring States period, it was destroyed by the Qin in 223 BC during the Qin's wars of unification.

LENGTH 19.4 and 18.4 cm

Provenance: Private collection of Professor Filippo Salviati.

Purchase for EUR 24,000



15 | **EIGHT BI-CONICAL WHITE JADE BEADS, EASTERN ZHOU**

Jade. China, Eastern Zhou, 4th – 3rd century BC

The eight small bi-conical beads are decorated with a pattern of small spirals in relief and an incised line that delimits the border of each end. The beads are carved from translucent white jade and show areas of opaque calcification.

Small beads like the present group were commonly used in the Eastern Zhou period as components of pendants. The jades were strung together with gold or metal chains which passed through the hole drilled at the center of the beads.

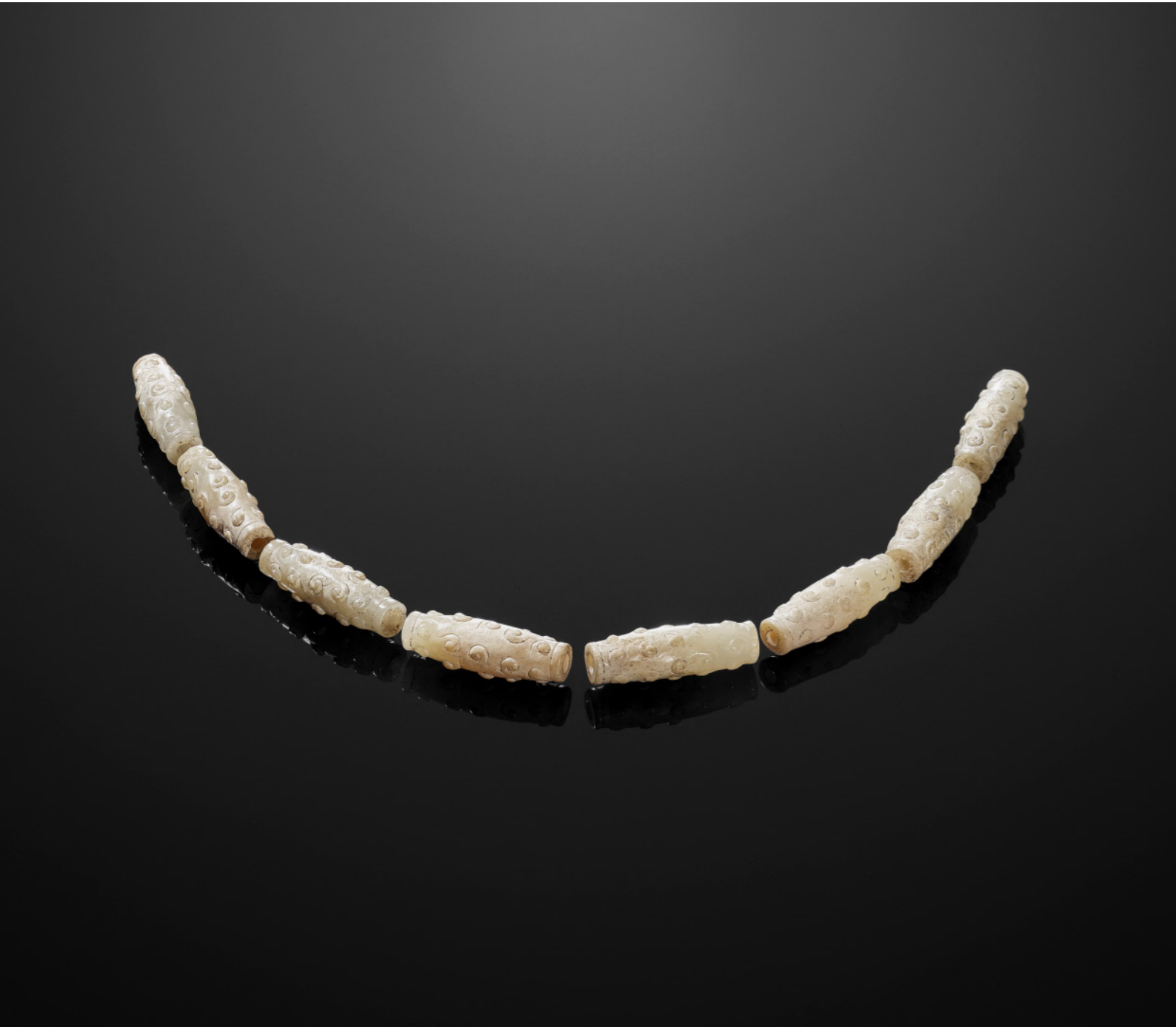
LITERATURE COMPARISON
Compare with a group of three similar beads published in Filippo Salviati, 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades, Edition Zacke, Vienna 2017, pp. 200-201, no. 206.



LENGTH 3 cm each

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 6,200



16 | **AN EXTRAORDINARY WHITE JADE 'TIGER' PENDANT, EASTERN ZHOU – HAN**

Jade. China, late Eastern Zhou – Han dynasty, c. 3rd-2nd century BC

This wonderful openwork pendant in white jade from the Central Asian region of Khotan is carved as a powerful tiger in profile. The striding animal is portrayed close to the ground, with slightly bent legs, a turned down head and a menacing, open mouth ready to seize its prey. The elongated body is marked by stylized, undulating stripes, while fine parallel lines carved on the limbs and below the neck suggest the fur. The body is sculpted in low relief, giving the animal an additional three-dimensional quality, and rests on a border made of stylized clouds or vapour that almost alludes to the supernatural qualities of the animal. A suspension loop is carved at the centre of the tiger's back. The beautifully translucent white jade turns to a deep black color near the edges, while the edges are calcified into a grey-beige color.

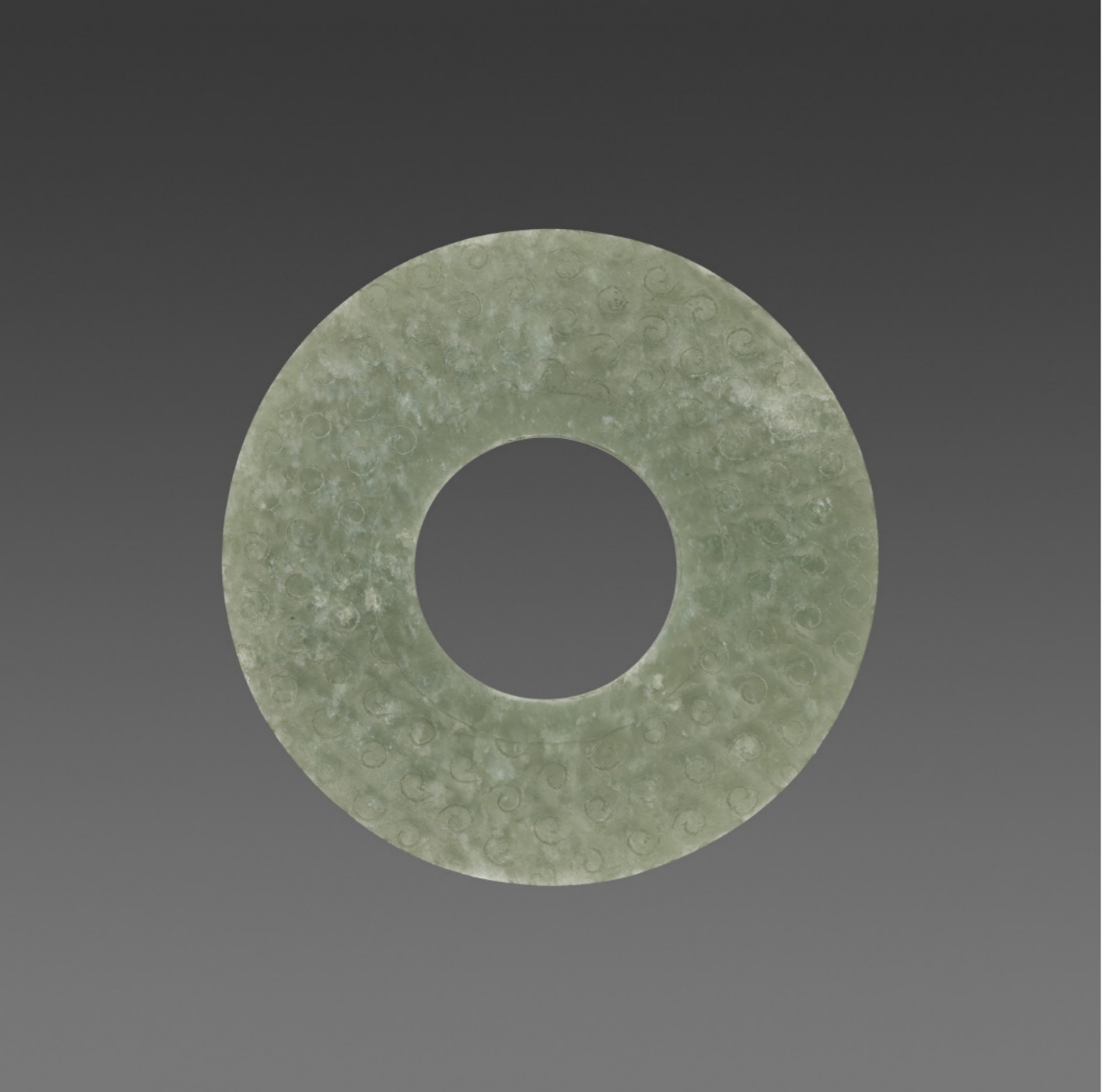
This pendant is almost identical to a famous carving in the Musée national des arts asiatiques – Guimet (accession number MG 18437), in Paris, that was originally part of the collection of archaic jades of Dr. G. Gieseler (d. 1933), one of the earliest to be formed in the Western world at the beginning of the 20th century. The jade is reproduced in A. Salmony, Carved jade of ancient China, 1982 reprint, London, pl.67 no. 1, and in J. P. Desroches, Asie Extrême. Chine, Corée, Japon, Vietnam, Paris 1993, pl. 9. The design is identical on both jades, including minor details such as the suspension loop and the stylized clouds at the tiger's feet, but the pendant in the Musée Guimet is bigger and flatter, without the tactile three-dimensional quality of the present carving.

LENGTH 8 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 4,800





17 | **A JADE BI DISC, EASTERN ZHOU TO WESTERN HAN**

Jade. China, Late Eastern Zhou – Early Western Han, 4th-3rd century BC

The jade of a deep celadon color with white inclusions, incised on both sides with a simple cloud-like scroll pattern, except for a small concentric section towards the central hole of the disc.

Similar bi have been found in the tombs of the kings of Zhong Shan Guo, published in Yang Boda, Chinese archaic jades from the Kwan collection, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong 1994 and in the tomb of the second kind of Nanyue, Zhao Mo in Guangzhou, Guangdong province. Another similar bi is published in Collector's Exhibition of Archaic Chinese Jades, National Palace Museum, Taipei 1995. Another similar bi is published in Loehr, Max, and Huber, Louisa G. Fitzgerald, Ancient Chinese jades from the Grenville L. Winthrop collection in the Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Fogg Art Museum (Cambridge, MA) 1975.

DIAMETER 11.4 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 2,800

18 | **A SPLENDID WHITE JADE BI-DISC WITH CHILONG, HAN DYNASTY**

China, Han dynasty, c. 2nd - 1st century BC

Carved from splendid white jade with some russet tones and carved on top in very high relief with several sculpturally crafted chilong, smooth-bodied chi-dragons with flat heads and split tails that end in volutes. Some of the dragons show their heads, while others dive into the surface of the disc as if it was a cloud. The bottom of the disc displays a pleasingly regular embossed pattern.

DIAMETER 11.5 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 9,500





19 | A SUPERB JADE 'DRAGON' BELT BUCKLE, HAN

Jade, China, Han dynasty, 206 BC – 220 AD

The dark celadon jade with russet streaks is carved as a belt buckle. The front is depicting dragons in dynamic postures emerging from a cloud-like surface, their bodies only partly visible. The incised lines add further details to the composition.

LITERATURE COMPARISON

A similar belt buckle in jade is in the collections of the Palace Museum, Taipei, and it is published in National Palace Museum, Gugong gu yu lu 故宮古玉圖錄 (Illustrated Catalogue of Ancient Jade Artefacts), National Palace Museum, Taipei 1988, no. 286.



See also two further examples from the Myers collection of archaic Chinese jades published in Two American in Paris. A Quest for Asian Art, Lienart, 2016, no. 157 and Genèse de l'empire céleste. Dragons, phénix et autres chimères / The Beginning of the World According to the Chinese. Dragons, Phoenix and other Chimera, 2020, no.11, detail p. 35.

LENGTH 10 cm

Provenance: Private collection of Professor Filippo Salviati.

Purchase for EUR 28,000





20 | **A JADE BI DISC WITH PHOENIXES
AND SHOU CHARACTER**

Jade. China, Han dynasty, 206 BC – 220 AD

The disc is covered with raised swirling scrolls and surmounted by two phoenixes facing opposite directions and flanking a heavily stylized Shou character, for long life. A central piercing in the openworked section allows the disc to be suspended as a pendant. The pale celadon jade shows several areas of calcification.

Discs embellished with motifs of phoenixes and dragons carved in openwork along the outside border form a category of jades that is often found in princely and royal Han burials.

LITERATURE COMPARISON

Further discs decorated with phoenixes carved along the border are illustrated in Filippo Salviati, 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades, Edition Zacke, Vienna 2017, nos. 335-337.



HEIGHT 15.5 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 5,500

21 | **A JADE OPENWORK 'KEY-FRET' DISC, QIN DYNASTY**

Jade. China, Qin dynasty, 3rd century BC

The jade disc finely carved, the solid central section around the hole neatly incised with short lines forming various geometric shape, with large key-fret designs carved in openwork radiating from the circular section. The mostly translucent stone of a dark russet and brown tone with white shadings and some white calcification.

DIAMETER 10.5 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 5,600




22 | A PAIR OF JADE 'DRAGON' PENDANTS

Jade. China, Han dynasty, 206 BC – 220 AD

Each pendant of this pair is carved in the shape of an imposing dragon in profile. Their sinuous bodies, bend in an s-shaped, are decorated with raised curls and finely incised lines. The heads exhibits all the common features of feline-like dragons with slanted eyes, upturned ears and fangs protruding from the mouth.

The jade of this pair is of a celadon to russet tone with areas of calcification. The jade seen on the right is almost entirely calcified showing intense white marbling.

**LITERATURE
COMPARISON**
Compare closely
related jade pendants
published and
illustrated in Filippo
Salvati, 4000 Years of
Chinese Archaic Jades,
Edition Zacke, Vienna
2017, p. 266-267, nos.
281-282.



HEIGHT 10.8 cm each

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 12,000





23 | **A RARE AND IMPORTANT PAIR OF WHITE AND BLACK JADE 'DRAGON' PENDANTS, HUANG, EARLY WESTERN HAN**

Jade. China, early Western Han, 2nd-1st century BC

Published: Filippo Salviati, "La Cina imperiale delle origini: osservazioni sui contatti artistici con l'Occidente e il mondo nomadico nell'arte delle dinastie Qin e Han", in M. Bussagli, P. D'Amore, P. Fedi, L. Giuliano, M. A. Polichetti, Filippo Salviati (eds.), L'eredità umana e scientifica di Mario Bussagli, Rome, 2021, pp. 353-364, fig. 2 (one pendant only).

Each pendant is of flattened shape and finely carved as two conjoined dragons with their heads curving upwards on either end and their bodies decorated in relief with comma spirals within raised borders.

The translucent stone is of a white tone with opaque patches of black tone and light inclusions.

The design of this pair of huang matches that of a similar ornament excavated in 1977 from a late Eastern Zhou tomb at Yanggong, Changfeng, Anhui province. Two related pendants from the Myers collection are reproduced in J. P. Desroches (ed.), Two Americans in Paris. A Quest for Asian Art, Paris 2016, nos. 139 and 140.

AUCTION COMPARISON
Compare a related but smaller (9 cm long) single jade pendant, also carved as two conjoined dragons and dated to the Western Han dynasty, at Christie's, Hong Kong, Adorning the Kings - A Private Collection of Archaic Jade Ornaments, 31 May 2017, lot 2718 (**sold for HKD 1,000,000, for one pendant**).



LENGTH 15.9 cm and 16 cm

Provenance: Private collection of Professor Filippo Salviati.

Purchase for EUR 65,000



24 | **A RARE PAIR OF JADE OPENWORK
'DRAGON AND IMMORTAL' PLAQUES,
HAN DYNASTY**

Jade. China, Han dynasty, 2nd century BC to 1st century AD

The plaques are of rectangular form and superbly carved in openwork with a sinuous dragon amid thick scrolling clouds, an immortal holding on to its body from behind.

The translucent stone is of a yellowish-white tone with cloudy inclusions, gray shadings, and areas of opaque calcification.

LITERATURE COMPARISON

The present lot is quite rare, especially as a pair. Compare a related plaque (8.8 x 4.3 cm) in the Changsha Museum in Hunan. Compare also the three plaques in openwork illustrated Filippo Salviati, 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades, Vienna, 2017, nos. 304-306.



The image of the human figure 'riding' the dragon is similar to that painted on a tomb tile excavated at Jincun, Luoyang and now in the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, object number 931.13.186, and another in the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, object number 69.25.



LENGTH 10 cm (each)

Provenance: Private collection of Professor Filippo Salviati.



Purchase for EUR 26,000





25 | **A WHITE JADE 'DRAGON' ORNAMENT,
WESTERN HAN**

Published: Filippo Salviati, 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades,
Edition Zacke, Vienna 2017, pp. 264-265, no. 278.

Jade. China, Early Western Han dynasty, Xuzhou type, 2nd century BC

The present jade is shaped from white jade as an arched dragon with a feline-looking head and a large thick body that ends in a pointed tip. The mouth, open to show the fangs, is topped by whiskers filled with striations, also used to mark the tufts of hair behind the head; the snout is upturned and terminates in a curl, while the slanting eye is topped by a thick line standing for the eyebrow. Below each pendant there is a further, dragon carved in openwork: the head is turned towards the back and the sinuous body is enriched with volutes that look like a stylized bird head in profile.

The form of this jade matches that of similar pendants discovered in the Western Han tombs at Xuzhou and it is firstly attested amongst the 6th-5th century BC jades discovered at Xiasi, Xichuan, Henan province.

LENGTH 13.9 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 28,000



26 | **A SUPERB WHITE JADE 'DRAGON' DISC, WESTERN HAN**

Jade. China, Western Han, Mancheng type, 2nd century BC

Published: Filippo Salviati, 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades, Edition Zacke, Vienna 2017, pp. 278-279, no. 288 and on the front cover.

The disc, carved from pure white jade, is decorated with small spirals in relief and topped by two addorsed and winged dragons with only rear limbs. Their bodies extend vertically on top of the disc and form an elaborate, cloud-like element.

This superb disc, surmounted by two addorsed dragons amidst volutes, matches one of the most famous of all jades ever found so far in China: an identical carving was discovered in 1968 in the tomb of Liu Sheng, a prince of the Western Han, son of Emperor Jing (r.157-141 BC), the sixth ruler of the dynasty. The undisturbed tomb, where Liu Sheng was buried together with his royal consort, Princess Dou Wan, yielded more than three-thousand objects, and amongst them, many jades of the highest quality, including carvings of earlier periods. Probably one of the most astonishing

finds was the discovery of two complete jade suits which had been used to encase the bodies of the princely couple: such funerary jade suits were reserved for the members of the Liu imperial family and are found almost exclusively in their tombs.

Liu Sheng's disc, which is the most sophisticated of all the jades found in his tomb, was originally placed between the two wooden coffins which protected the body of the Prince. Hence, the carving was not an item of personal adornment but some sort of propitiatory object with auspicious images suited to accompany the soul of the deceased. Dragons and bi discs decorated with curls are also painted on the funerary banner and on the lacquered coffins discovered in the 2nd century BC tomb of Xin Zhui, or Lady Dai, at Mawangdui (Changsha, Hunan), suggesting that this combination of motifs was related to ideas of the afterlife and to the world of the spirits populated by mythical creatures.

From a stylistic point of view, it has to be noted that dragons and phoenixes carved on the outside of bi discs are a Han innovation, for two examples see Filippo Salviati, 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades, Edition Zacke, Vienna 2017, nos. 334-343.

HEIGHT 15.9 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 82,000





27 | A 4-PART WHITE AND RUSSET JADE SWORD FITTING, WESTERN HAN

Jade. China, Western Han, 2nd – 1st century BC

Scientific Analysis Report: A signed and stamped report from the Gemmological Laboratory Austria (GLA), no. 57382-2, dated 17 November 2022, confirms that the present lot is nephrite jade. A copy of this report accompanies this lot.

The present lot is a complete set of jade sword fittings, comprising a pommel (shou) of circular form, a sword guard (ge), a scabbard chape (bi) of trapezoidal form and a scabbard slide (zhi).

Each of the four pieces in the set is decorated with a pair of dragons. A taotie-type mask is also carved in low relief on the backs of the guard and the chape. The underside of the pommel is incised with small interconnected scrolls in relief around a stylized four-petal flower. The workmanship is of the highest level and the jade is mostly white with some russet nuances.

Weapon fittings in jade developed in the Eastern Zhou period and reached their climax during the following Han dynasty, when entire sets made of several jades were used to embellish the swords of aristocrats.

DIAMETER 6.4 cm (the pommel), WIDTH 6.6 cm (the sword guard), WIDTH 6.9 cm (the scabbard chape), LENGTH 10.5 cm (the scabbard slide),

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 68,000

Published: Filippo Salviati, 4000 Years of Chinese Archaic Jades, Edition Zacke, Vienna 2017, pp. 315-317, no. 318 (material erroneously described as agate).





28 | **A 'DRAGON AND PHOENIX'
SCABBARD SLIDE, WESTERN
HAN**

Jade, China, Western Han, c. 207 BC – 9 AD

The scabbard slide is partly executed in openwork to depict a dragon and phoenix amid scrolling clouds. Their sinuous bodies are intertwined and detailed with finely incised lines. The translucent stone is of a pale celadon color with creamy white to brown inclusions.

LENGTH 9.2 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022), acquired at China Guardian Auctions, Hong Kong, 30 May 2017, lot 1233 (dated to Han dynasty or later).

Purchase for EUR 9,500



29 | **AN EXQUISITE SMALL
PALE CELADON JADE SWORD
POMMEL WITH HORNLESS
DRAGON, WESTERN HAN**

Jade, China, Western Han dynasty, c. 3rd-2nd century BC

An exquisite and small pale celadon jade sword pommel carved with a hornless chi dragon on top, with distinct feline features and exhibiting splendid curvature with many volutes emanating from its body. Its body frames the central hole, and the backside is polished smoothly.

LENGTH 3.2 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 1,500





30 | A JADE CARVING OF A BIXIE, SIX DYNASTIES

Jade. China, Six Dynasties, 3rd-6th century AD

The mythical beast is standing foursquare with gently curved wings, an s-shaped tail, funnel-shaped ears, and a single horn. The face is neatly detailed with bulging eyes below sinuous brows, a prominent nose, and the mouth agape revealing teeth and tongue.

The mostly opaque stone is of a deep brown tone with olive and dark green shadings, dark speckles, and small areas of calcification.

Moving away from the highly stylized depictions of animals in the Shang and Zhou dynasties, artisans of the Han dynasty and Six Dynasties developed a more naturalistic approach to representing animals. This aesthetic was applied to images of both real and mythical creatures, and across artistic mediums. At the same time, lapidary arts flourished, and jade animals of unprecedentedly high quality started to be carved. The present bixie is a superb example of the sculptural practices of the period, and the era's enthusiasm for miraculous creatures that were believed to be portents possessing supernatural power.

AUCTION COMPARISON

Compare a related white jade bixie, also dated to the Six Dynasties, of slightly larger size (6.5 cm long), at Christie's, Hong Kong, Adorning the Kings - A Private Collection of Archaic Jade Ornaments, 31 May 2017, lot 2743 (**sold for HKD 375,000**), and another (7 cm long) dated Han to Six Dynasties at Sotheby's, New York, Important Chinese Art, 21 September 2021, lot 46 (**sold for USD 107,100**).



HEIGHT 5 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 12,000



31 | A CELADON JADE 'BIRD' PENDANT

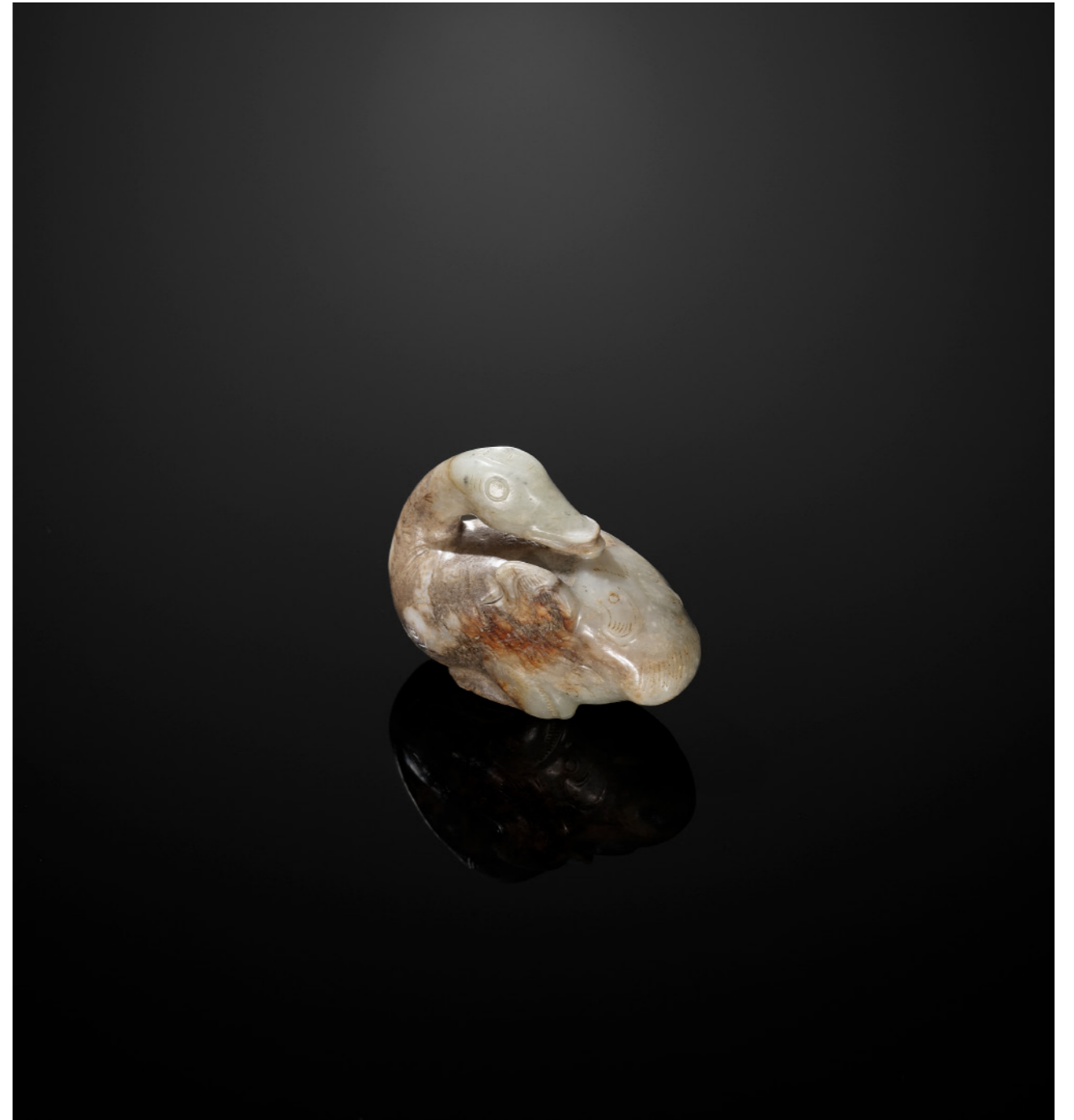
Jade. China, Six Dynasties (3rd – 6th century AD) to Tang dynasty (618-907)

Carved as a bird with slightly hooked beak, its wings placed against its sides and its claws tucked underneath. The eyes and plumage are finely incised. The translucent stone is of a pale celadon tone with patches of cream-white tone and dark veins. Pierced through the center, allowing for suspension as a pendant.

LENGTH 5.4 cm

Provenance: Private Collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 3,800



32 | A FINE CELADON AND RUSSET JADE 'GOOSE' CARVING, LATE SONG TO MING DYNASTY

Jade. China, 13th-14th century

Carved as a recumbent goose, with its head turned back and preening its feathers, its webbed feet tucked neatly under its body, and the wings folded in and well detailed with incised markings. The smoothly polished and almost white celadon jade with some russet and dark grey inclusions as well mottled creamy white speckles throughout.

LENGTH 5.6 cm

Provenance: Private collection of Irene and Wolfgang Zacke (1942-2022).

Purchase for EUR 1,600