Finch & Co



TWO ANCIENT EGYPTIAN BRONZE VOTIVE SARCOPHAGI

TWO ANCIENT EGYPTIAN BRONZE VOTIVE SARCOPHAGI
LATE PERIOD 713 – 332 BC
SIZE : 15 CM LONG, 6 CM HIGH, 4.5 CM DEEP – 6 INS LONG, 2¼ INS HIGH, 1¾ INS DEEP
6 CM LONG, 2.5 CM HIGH, 2 CM DEEP – 2¼ INS LONG, 1 INS HIGH, ¾ INS DEEP

LITERATURE

THESE TWO SMALL ANCIENT BRONZE COFFINS ONCE CONTAINED THE MUMMIFIED REMAINS OF A SACRED SNAKE AND LIZARD AND WERE INTENDED AS VOTIVE OFFERINGS. THE COBRA HEADED GODDESS WADJET WAS TRADITIONALLY ASSOCIATED WITH LOWER EGYPT AND HAD MANY TEMPLES DEDICATED TO HER. LIZARDS IN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN HIEROGLYPHS WERE THE SIGN FOR 'MANY' AND THUS CAME TO SYMBOLISE WEALTH AND PROSPERITY. THE LIZARD IN ITS VOTIVE SARCOPHAGUS WAS OFFERED IN THE HOPE OF CREATING WEALTH FOR ITS DONOR.