Finch & Co



A FINE ANCIENT EGYPTIAN SMALL BRONZE FIGURE OF BASTET, THE CAT GODDESS

A FINE ANCIENT EGYPTIAN SMALL BRONZE FIGURE OF BASTET, THE CAT GODDESS
LATE PERIOD 713 – 332 BC
SIZE : 4.5 CM HIGH – 1¾ INS HIGH

LITERATURE

BASTET WAS THE PROTECTRESS OF THE HOUSE AND THE DAUGHTER OF THE SUN GOD AND WAS PARTICULARLY POPULAR AS A VOTIVE IMAGE.
IN ANCIENT EGYPT CATS WERE IMPORTANT BOTH AS DOMESTIC PETS AND AS THE SYMBOL OF THE GODDESS, THEIR BODIES OFTEN BEING ELABORATELY MUMMIFIED. THE EARLIEST REMAINS OF A CAT WERE FOUND IN A TOMB AT THE PRE-DYNASTIC SITE OF MOSTAGEDDA SUGGESTING THAT THE EGYPTIANS WERE ALREADY KEEPING CATS AS PETS IN THE LATE 4TH MILLENNIUM BC.