Finch & Co



ROMAN MARBLE OF THE GODDESS CYBELE

AN ANCIENT ROMAN MARBLE OF THE GODDESS CYBELE THE MAGNA MATER SEATED ON HER THRONE SURROUNDED BY HER ATTENDANT LIONS

2ND CENTURY AD

SIZE: 24CM HIGH, 17CM WIDE, 13.5CM DEEP – 9½ INS HIGH, 6¾ INS WIDE, 5¼ INS DEEP

LITERATURE

CYBELE WAS THE GREAT MOTHER GODDESS OF ANATOLIA ASSOCIATED IN MYTH WITH HER YOUTHFUL LOVER ATTIS. AS MISTRESS AND QUEEN OF HER PEOPLE CYBELE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR WELL BEING IN ALL RESPECTS. SHE IS PRIMARILY A GODDESS OF FERTILITY, BUT ALSO CURES DISEASE, GIVES ORACLES AND PROTECTS HER PEOPLE IN WAR. SHE IS ALSO THE GODDESS OF MOUNTAINS AND THEREFORE THE MISTRESS OF WILD NATURE AS SYMBOLISED BY HER ATTENDANT LIONS. HER CULT WAS ESPECIALLY FAVOURED BY WOMEN AND AFTER HER ARRIVAL IN ROME ON APRIL 12TH, 204BC HER WORSHIP QUICKLY SPREAD THROUGH THE PROVINCES PARTICULARLY IN GAUL AND AFRICA WHERE IT WAS READILY ACCEPTED AS A MUNICIPAL CULT. ECSTATIC STATES INCLUDING PROPHETIC RAPTURE AND INSENSIBILITY TO PAIN WERE CHARACTERISTIC OF HER WORSHIP.