Finch & Co



EGYPTIAN SERPENTINE CIPPUS 'MAGICAL STELA'

AN EGYPTIAN SERPENTINE CIPPUS 'MAGICAL STELA' DEPICTING THE GOD HORUS STANDING ON A SERPENT AND TWO CROCODILES

HE HOLDS A SNAKE IN EACH HAND AND IS SURMOUNTED BY A MASK OF BES ABOVE HIS HEAD

THE REVERSE INSCRIBED WITH REGISTERS OF MAGICAL SYMBOLS

PTOLEMAIC TO ROMAN PERIOD / 3RD CENTURY B.C TO 1ST CENTURY A.D

SIZE: 11CM HIGH, 4.5CM WIDE, 2CM DEEP - 4¼ INS HIGH, 1¾ INS WIDE, ¾ INS DEEP / 15.5CM HIGH - 6 INS HIGH (WITH BASE)

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LITERATURE

CIPPI SUCH AS THIS EXAMPLE WERE CREATED TO PROTECT AN INDIVIDUAL OR AREAS FROM THE PERILS OF WILD ANIMALS. THE GOD HORUS IS SHOWN SUBDUING THESE ANIMALS BY TRAMPLING OR HOLDING THEM. THE ICONOGRAPHY CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON DESIGNS OF MESOPOTAMIAN SEALS AND SCULPTURE. AS THE DESIGN NEARLY ALWAYS INCORPORATES THE GOD STANDING UPON TWO COUNTER-FACING CROCODILES, THESE SCULPTURES ARE ALSO KNOWN AS 'HORUS ON THE CROCODILES' STELAE.

PROVENANCE

EX PRIVATE COLLECTION, RHEINE, WESTPHALIA, GERMANY, INHERITED WITH A LARGE COLLECTION OF ETHNOGRAPHIC ART, ACQUIRED DURING THE 1930'S - 50'S

THENCE BY DESCENT

EX PRIVATE COLLECTION