

SA1099666

Olive-green Glazed 'Phoenix' Footed Bowl, Northern Song Dynasty (960–1127)

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1099666****Date of manufacture: Before 1700**

Description

An antique earthenware footed glazed brush washer bowl featuring a pattern of two phoenix birds inside. The birds are depicted guarding a pearl suspended on a chain in the center of an uncomplicated floral motif, with distant mountains visible against a backdrop of clouds. The bowl stands on three short, slightly curved legs that are gently attached to the body. The base has a rounded profile with no stamps. Similar bowl shapes were common in Song Dynasty kilns scattered across China during this period. Ceramic wares were integral to daily life at the time. The green-glazed ceramics in China are known as "qingci," a type of celadon that originated in Zhejiang during the Eastern Han Dynasty but can trace its roots back to the Shang Dynasty. Of the many divine birds in Asian mythology, the Chinese phoenix, or "???" (Feng Huang), is among the most revered. In Chinese culture, the phoenix symbolizes high virtue and grace and is considered the king of all birds. Historically, males were referred to as "Feng" (?) and females as "Huang" (?), but during the Yuan Dynasty, the phoenix became associated with femininity. The Chinese phoenix first appeared on pottery over 8,000 years a...

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