

SA1176472

Monumental 19th-Century Chinese Temple Guardian (Zhenwu), Gilt & Polychrome Wood

Price

GBP 1,950

| USD \$2,639 | EUR 2,282

Item Reference: SA1176472**Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 40.5 cm (15.9")

Width = 25 cm (9.8")

Depth = 21.5 cm (8.5")

Description

A late-Qing shrine guardian, likely Zhenwu/Xuanwu (snake & tortoise attributes). Carved fully in the round with swirling celestial ribbons, armour and rock base; original gilding with floral linework. This is a true temple sculpture—not a tourist carving—evidenced by mass, complex block-construction, devotional wear and hand-laid lacquer. Historical Background Zhenwu (also known as Xuanwu, the Dark Warrior) was revered in Daoist temples from the Ming through the Qing dynasty. His iconography—armour, flowing scarves, and the entwined serpent and tortoise—represents cosmic balance and the triumph of order over chaos. Temple figures such as this would have stood beside altars, gilded to amplify the flicker of ritual lamplight. Measurements Height: 40.5 cm / 15.9" Width: 25 cm / 9.8" Depth: 21.5 cm / 8.5" Weight: 4.605 kg Condition Old stabilised joins to two ribbon loops; crown losses; age cracks and rubbing to gilding, structurally sound. Shipping & Packaging Fully tracked and insured delivery. Professional packaging with careful handling. Recycled materials used where possible. Please study all photographs as they form part of the description. Questions are welcome.

Internal Ref: B1478

Seller Details

Gillers Antiques Ltd

Buckland House Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 0PY United Kingdom

Tel: 07738 009924

International Tel: +44 7738 009924

