

SA1208692

A Massively Heavy Cast and Gilt-Splashed Chinese Bronze 'Taotie' Mask Handle Censer
Period: Late Ming Dynasty, 16th Century

Price

GBP 145,000

| USD \$195,837 | EUR 169,592

Item Reference: SA1208692

Date of manufacture: 16th Century

Dimensions

Height = 9 cm (3.5")

Width = 13.5 cm (5.3")

Description

A Massively Heavy Cast and Gilt-Splashed Chinese Bronze 'Taotie' Mask Handle Censer Period: Late Ming Dynasty, 16th Century Mark: Six-character Mark of Wu Bangzuo (Rare) This vessel bears the far rarer six-character 'Gongbu' (Ministry of Works) Official Seal. Physical Specifications Weight: 2,431g (2.431kg) – Exceptional for this form. Diameter: 13.5 cm (Rim) Height: 9.0 cm Density Ratio: This vessel exhibits a weight-to-volume ratio in the top 1% of known Ming scholarship bronzes. To pack 2.4kg of metal into a 13.5cm frame indicates incredibly thick, heavy-walled casting—a "Masterpiece Grade" hallmark. Condition Report Overall Grade: Very Good / Excellent (relative to age and period). Surface Integrity: The bronze retains its original deep chocolate-brown patina. It is remarkably stable with no signs of "bronze disease" or active corrosion. Gilding Preservation: The fire-gilded splashes remain vibrant and thick across the body. The wear is "honest," showing only natural mellowing consistent with 400 years of respectful handling. Structural Integrity: The rim, foot-ring, and both Taotie handles are fully intact. There are no signs of historic repairs, lead-fills...

Seller Details

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