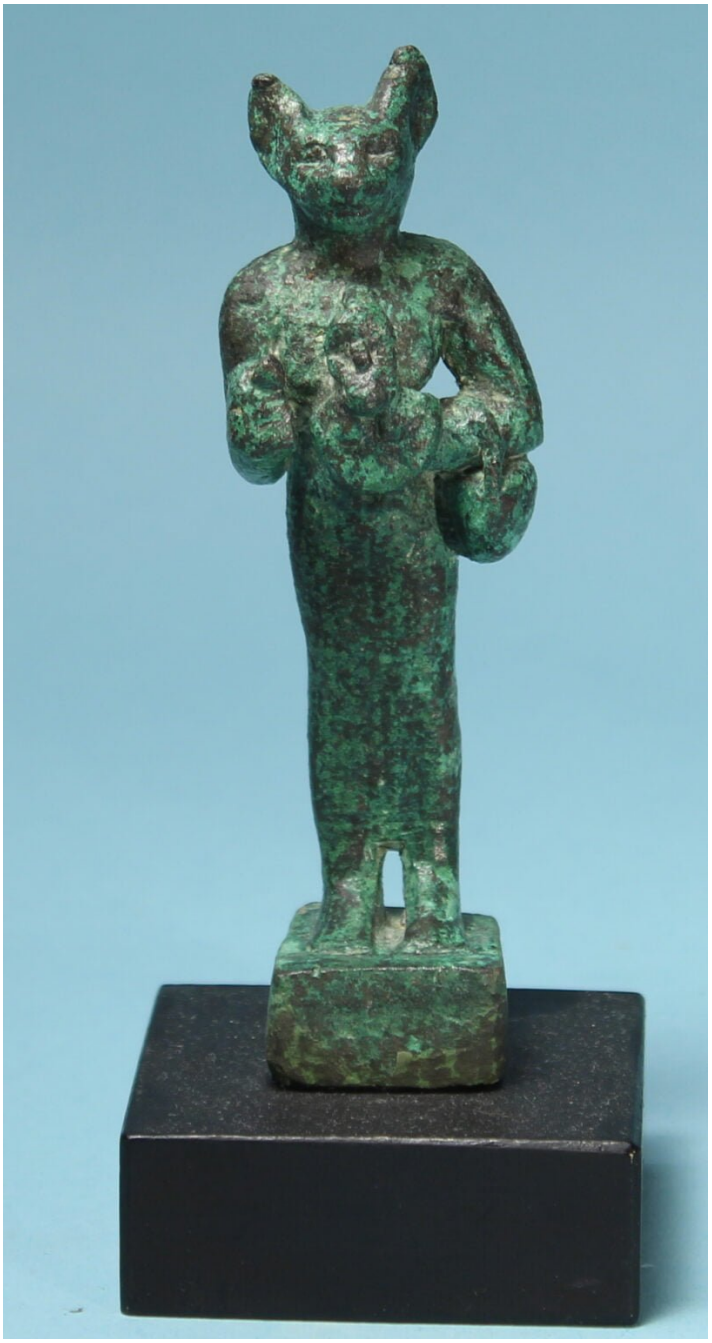
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Egyptian Bronze Bastet



An ancient Egyptian bronze statuette of the cat headed goddess Bastet. She stands on an integral plinth wearing an ankle length close fitting gown. She holds a sistrum in her right hand and an aegis with a lion head in her left hand. Around her left wrist hangs a basket.

Late Period,
Ca. 700 - 30 BC.
Height: 4 1/8 in. (10.5 cm).

The female cat was seen as the earthly manifestation of Bastet, goddess of Joy. Her cult center was at Bubastis in the Nile Delta. Here the carefully mummified bodies of highly revered cats have been found in great numbers.

Published: J. Eisenberg, Art of the Ancient World, vol. XXI, (2010), no. 217.

Formerly in a French private collection; Pierre Berge auction, Paris, December 1, 2007, lot 469, with Royal-Athena Galleries, subsequently, New York private collection.

inventory number: 6226

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