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Etruscan Terracotta Votive Foot



An ancient Etruscan terracotta votive left foot.

Etruria.
Ca. 5th - 4th century BC.
Length: 6 3/4 in. (16.8 cm).

From the 5th century BC onward the practice of leaving terracotta votive offerings in the sanctuaries (bothroi) of Etruria became wide spread. Representations of all parts of the body are known, e.g, genitalia, internal organs, heads, eyes, breasts, feet and hands. It is believed that these were left the intention of seeking a cure for an ailment specific to the anatomical model represented.

cf.: I. Jucker, Italy of the Etruscans, (Mainz, 1991), p. 263.

Formerly in The Crawford Foundation Collection, Washington D.C.; gifted to the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Virginia, 1991; deaccessioned by the museum, 2023.

inventory number: 9719

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