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Greek Bronze Exalaeiptron



An ancient Greek bronze exaleiptron, comprised of a circular basin with a partially closed rounded lid which rests on a tripod pedestal with feline feet.

Ca. 6th - 5th century BC.
Diameter: 6 7/8 in. (17.4 cm).

The term exaleiptron (from the ancient Greek - to wash over, anoint) refers to a vessel of a partially open form thought to contain perfumed liquids. The exaleiptron, and similar forms - plemochoe and kothon, are closely associated with both nuptual and funerary rituals.

cf.: Thessalonika Archaeological Museum, SINDOS, (Athens, 1985), nos. 101, 139, 162, 313; Metropolitan Museum of Art, inv. no. 1987.11.6.

Formerly in a German private collection.

inventory number: 9635

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