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235 EAST 60TH STREET
NEW YORK NY 10022
212.989.9743 / 646.326.0820
WWW.HIXENBAUGH.NET
INFO@HIXENBAUGH.NET

Sicilian Gnathia Lidded Spouted Skyphos



An ancient Sicilian black glazed Gnathia Vine Group lidded spouted skyphos, with a knob handle on the lid, lateral handles and grape vines in added white on the body.

Sicily.
Ca. 350 - 300 BC.
Height: 5 in. (12.8 cm).

Gnathia ware is so named as it was first found at the Apulian site of Egnathia. The black glaze ware is often decorated with applied red, white, or yellow painted floral motifs. Production probably was centered around Taras, with workshops in Egnathia, Canosa and Sicily.The output and quality of the Greek colonial potters working in Southern Italy increased greatly following the Peloponnesian War when Attic exports fell off sharply. South Italian Colonial Greek craftsmanship of the 4th century BC was an amalgamation of the Ionian (Athenian, Attic) conventions, and Doric (western colonial Greek) styles, with a noticeable native Italian aesthetic. The five predominant regional schools of South Italian pottery were: Apulian, Sicilian, Lucanian, Paestan, and Campanian.

cf.: M. Mayo, Art of South Italy: Vases from Magna Graecia (Richmond 1982), Page 276 no 138

Formerly in the collection of Jerome Eisenberg, New York, acquired at Sotheby's, New York, February 9, 1985, lot 363.

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