

COLNAGHI



Sarcophagus Mask

Egyptian, Thebes, Third Intermediate Period, 22nd Dynasty, c.942-715 BC

Wood

Height: 20 cm; 7 7/8 in.

Provenance:

W. Talbot Ready, Rathbone Place, London, UK

Lieut-General Fox Pitt-Rivers (1827-1900), Dorset, UK; acquired from the above 17th March, 1891, for £1.15.0 Pitt-Rivers Museum, Dorset, UK; recorded and illustrated in the catalogue of the collection Vol.II, p.666 Sotheby's, London, UK, Antiquities, 24th February 1975, lot 125

Private Collection, UK

Karsten Schubert (1961-2019), London, UK; acquired May 2019

Published:

Cambridge University Library, Pitt-Rivers 2nd Collection Albums, vol.II, p.666, no.1, including a watercolour of the mask

Sotheby's, London, *Catalogue of Antiquities, Islamic and Isnik Pottery, Primitive Art*, 24th February 1975, lot 125

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The face with finely carved features is painted ochre red, with white to the eyes and black cosmetic lines, eyebrows and pupils. The wig has remains of gesso and black paint, a fixing dowel visible in the centre. Crack consolidated, chips between the brows.

The absence of any beard (or its fixing point) most likely shows this is for a female. The rounded cheeks, narrow lips and downward slanting eyes indicate it was made in the 22nd Dynasty, reviving the earlier Ramesside style of the 19th Dynasty.

References:

For an example in situ with the rest of the coffin compare *Life and Death Under the Pharaohs: Egyptian Art from the National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden, The Netherlands* (Leiden, 2002), no.199