

COLNAGHI



Greek

Early Hellenistic, ca. late 4th–early 3rd century B.C.

Funnel Strainer

Bronze

d. 21 cm

8 1/4 in. (including handles)

Provenance

Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 14 November 1973, lot no. 138;

Safari Gallery, New York, 1974;

Ex Christos G. Bastis Collection;

his sale, Sotheby's, New York, Thursday December 9, 1999, lot no. 107;

Bonham's London, Antiquities, 20 October 2005, lot no. 354;

Private Collection, United States, acquired from the above.

Formerly on loan to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York with the other bronze objects from the same group.

Publications

Hôtel Drouot, Paris, 14 November 1973, lot 138, illus.

Joan R. Mertens, "A Hellenistic Find in New York", *The Metropolitan Museum of Art Bulletin*, vol. 11, (New York 1976), the group pp. 71-84, illus.

The Search for Alexander, Supplement to the Catalogue, (New York 1982), the group pp.10 & 100, nos.S.29-33.

Antiquities from the Collection of Christos G. Bastis, Catalogue of the exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, (New York 1987), pp.190-193, illus. nos.100-108, the strainer, nos. 103a & b.

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With a sieve inserted into the top of the funnel, the sieve element a hammered dish perforated with holes forming a pinwheel design, the bowl turned on a lathe, two loop handles one partially broken, terminating in duck heads, curlicues, marking the flat parts of the handle joining the bowl, a bead molding encircling the rim.

This funnel strainer was once part of a group of antiquities since dispersed that were said to have been found together at Amphipolis. The group contained this strainer, two drinking cups, a ladle, a bottle, a bracelet, a ring with an Eros, a ring with a lion, and five silver drachmas of Alexander the Great. The coins are an important indication for a relative date for the manufacture of these objects: the latest coin was struck in 305/304 B.C., which has led scholars to conclude the objects from the group all were made in the years between 300-280 B.C.

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