

Kangxi / Yongzheng polychrome biscuit porcelain water dropper

SOLD

REF: 216172



Short Description

Late kangxi to Early Yongzheng biscuit porcelain water dropper modelled as a reclining Liu Hai who is sitting on his three legged toad Excellent modelling and glaze. The piece was made as a water dropper for the scholars table although some were brought into Europe as a novelty where they proved popular. This piece was probably used on the scholars table rather than being an export piece as it is an earlier piece than when the export started.

Liu Hai was said to have magical powers and to be able to travel anywhere in the universe with his

companion the three legged toad whom he had tamed. The two were supposed to be able to collect money from the sea and which he then gave to the poor and needy and by playing with coins he was able to distract his toad from releasing poison and thereby preventing people from being harmed.

Biscuit porcelain was dry fired ( with out glaze), then the paint and enamels were applied to the body and fired again. Biscuit porcelain means that it saved on glaze although two firings were still needed.

This is such a great piece.

Excellent bright colouring and detail

## More Information

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Year	1730 - 1740
Medium	Porcelain
Country	China
Condition	overall good slight loss of glaze to the one eye of the toad at the rear of the piece.