

ARCHAIC BOAR

Greek, 6th century B.C.

Bronze

L: 12.4 cm (4.9 in)

Reference: 18355



Solid cast, the sow standing four-square with cloven hooves, naturalistically depicted, with the short bristling crest peaked along the entire length of her body from the crown of her head to the tail, conforming to the contours of her back, the long-tapering muzzle flaring at the snout, with bulging lidded eyes and erect ears, the tail curling over upon itself, with a row of eight swollen teats along her belly, on a thin integral rectangular plinth, a hooked tenon below. The scale, quality, and naturalism of this boar are extraordinary.

CONDITION

Intact

PROVENANCE

The Thétis Foundation; Sotheby's, London, 23 May 1991, lot 54.

Ex – private collection, Switzerland, 2004.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

For a similar example, only one-third the size, see no. C 34, p. 171 in Kunze, *Meisterwerke Antiker Bronzen und Metallarbeiten aus der Sammlung Borowski*. For a naturalistic boar, slightly later in date, from the rim or shoulder of a vessel, see no. 434 in Comstock and Vermeule, *Greek, Etruscan & Roman Bronzes in the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston*.