

DAVID AARON



The 'Bellon' Vase

122th - 13th Century, Syria

23 x 17 cm (9 x 6 ³/₄ inches)

Ceramic

A baluster-shaped ceramic vase with siliceous paste painted in manganese and cobalt, under a transparent glaze. With hand-painted blue and white decorations. Stone paste or 'fritware' vessels with lustre, turquoise, white and cobalt blue glazes were famously crafted in the northern Syrian city of Raqqa, situated on the Euphrates River. They were often utilitarian in design, but elegant and intricate in decoration. This present example was most likely used as a storage vessel. Like many transportable ceramics in the region, it is possible this piece was exported out of the city, either to be traded or as a container for more expensive goods.

Literature:

Collection H Hoffmann, Objets D'Art, Drouot, 30 Mai 1888, Paris, Lot 81.

David Aaron Ltd, 2023, No. 15.