

A rare Predynastic carnelian 'Bull's head' pendant amulet.

Circa: 2nd half of the 4th millennium B.C.

1.9 x 1.7 cm (0 $^{3}/_{4}$ x 0 $^{5}/_{8}$ inches)

Egypt, Predynastic period, Naqada culture

2nd half of the 4th millennium B.C.

A Predynastic carnelian amulet depicting a stylized bull's head. In a broadly abstract style depicted with downwards turned horns and rounded eyes. The back is pierced horizontally for stringing.

This amulet must have represented a magical or religious belief current in Naqada times. Together, with shell beads it was once used as a central pendant in a necklace.

Exhibitions

Galerie Nefer, Ancient Jewellery from the Near East and Egypt, Exhibition Catalogue, Spring 1993

Literature

Galerie Nefer, *Ancient Jewellery from the Near East and Egypt, Exhibition Catalogue, Spring 1993*, p.49, 46B