



FOOD OFFERING MINGQI FIGURE

\$148

China • Ceramic, Glaze • Collection #CESB060B

H: 2.75" Dia: 2.0"

This petite ceramic sculpture is a type of centuries-old burial figurine known as *míngqì* or "spirit object." Depicting the pleasures of daily life, *míngqì* figurines ensured comfort and special treatment in the afterlife. *Míngqì* sculpture takes the form of servants, entertainers, animals furniture, and in this case, food and food offerings.

This tiny sculpture depicts an offering dish piled high with fruit, and provided a means to continue giving offerings to one's ancestors, even in the afterlife. The food offering symbolizes abundance and would have originally been just one part of an entire *míngqì* altar display. Continued...



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The ceramic sculpture is coated with a light green glaze, now weathered from age and use.



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