



ANTHEA FINE ARTS



A NEW-KINGDOM STEATITE GLAZED SCARAB

Circa: 1525-1200 BCE

Glazed steatite.

1.6 x 1.1 x 0.6 cm (0 ⁵/₁₆ x 0 ³/₁₆ x 0 ¹/₁₆ inches)

Egypt, New-Kingdom, Dynasty 18th-19th, 1525-1200 BCE

This steatite scarab has a flat underside with a vertically arranged design with a 'Maat' and the signs *ꜥnh* and *tj*. Underneath, the sign *k3* framed by 2 *nfr* signs. The design of the back is simple. The piece is carefully made.

This scarab functioned as a supportive amulet and should secure life and justice. The piece could serve in this world and in the afterlife; with the presence of Maat, it should assure the support of the goddess. It would have originally been mounted or threaded. Scarabs bearing wishes and blessings related to divinities whose protection individuals wished to summon are particular popular during the (late) New Kingdom and the Third Intermediate Period (ca. 1295-664 B.C.). The scarab should secure the individual existence (wish formula: "who may live").