


Nghé figurine

Southeast Asian Collection

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| Accession Nr.: | 61.366.1  |
| Type: | statuette; pottery |
| Date of production: | 17 – 18th century |
| Place of production: | Hanoi, Bát Tráng village, Vietnam, Southeast Asia |
| Materials/Techniques: | stoneware, brown glazed |
| Dimensions: | height: 19 cm length: 17, 5 cm width: 9 cm pedestal: length: 12 cm pedestal: width: 9 cm |

A statue of a mystical dog-shaped creature (nghé) with a ball bite in its mouth, decorated with flaming torches, on a pedestal. The nghé is an important symbol for the Vietnamese people, a highly revered spirit, not to be confused with the Chinese fo dog. It also represents wisdom and loyalty and is often placed as a gatekeeper in front of temples and gateways. The ceramic figurine in the picture was a gift from the Museum of History of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam to the Hopp Museum collection in 1961. The place of manufacture is the Bát Tráng ceramic village, in a district of Hanoi, where the popular Bát Tráng porcelain has been made for seven hundred years.

