

Nghé figurine

Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.: **61.366.1** 

Type: **statuette; pottery**

Date of production: **17 – 18th century**

Place of production: **Hanoi, Bát Tràng village, Vietnam, Southeast Asia**

Materials/Technique
s: **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 Tràng ceramic village, in a district of Hanoi, where the popular Bát Tràng porcelain has been made for seven hundred years.

