

# Buddha head

## Southeast Asian Collection

Accession Nr.: 617 

Type: sculpture; religious or cult object; metalwork; fragment

Date of production: 16th century

Place of production: Thailand (Siam), Southeast Asia

Materials: bronze

Techniques: gilt

Dimensions: height: 47.5 cm  
width: 20 cm

The Ayutthaya school mainly followed the traditions of the Sukhothai style, in which the Buddha was portrayed in a supernatural, almost weightless, and sublimely delicate form. Such portraits strove for perfect proportions while also featuring the distinctive positive attributes of the Buddha's appearance: the twirling locks of hair, the protuberance on the head signifying his enlightened consciousness (accentuated here by characteristic tongues of flames shooting upwards) and the long, extended earlobes, resembling lotus petals.

