PAN
AMSTERDAM

VANDERVEN ORIENTAL ART

Court Lady

China, Tang Dynasty (618-907)
Height: 45.5 cm
Provenance:
- Princesse Niloufar Pahlavi, Paris 1990-'s

A Chinese pottery figure of a full-figured court lady, swaying slightly to her left. She is standing on a low base. Her flowing robes with long sleeves, falls down in gentle folds; the hem of the dress reaching the floor, just revealing the tip of her left shoe. Remains of red pigments can be found on her robes, with traces of green pigment on the inside of her sleeves. Her face, with full rounded cheeks, has been modelled with fine features, the eyes and eyebrows are defined with black pigments. Her elaborately coiffed hair is arranged in a high poufy chignon – typical of the Mid-late Tang Dynasty – in a style known as *duomaji*. Her type of make-up would have been fashionable at court: red lips and rouged cheeks, in a style referred to as 'giddy with liquor'. The figure is hollow and would have been moulded, the individual details and features added later by hand. After firing, the figure was covered in slip and cold painted with coloured pigments to define individual features and dress details.