PAN
AMSTERDAM

VANDERVEN ORIENTAL ART

Bronze Hu

Bronze
China, Warring States period (475-221 BC)
Height: 40 cm
Provenance:
- Private Collection, Belgium 2026

A large bronze cast garlic head *hu* vessel. The elegant bottle form, has a rounded body and elongated neck, ending in a so-called garlic-head mouth. The elongated neck is decorated with a single raised band. It stands on a squat, splayed foot rim. The bronze has a deep patina in various brown and green colours.

This elegant *hu* vessel was used for liquids such as wine. Wine was important during rituals, especially during worshipping the ancestors or placating the gods. The collections of the Shanghai Museum and the National Palace Museum (Taipei) hold similar examples.