Case 3-Eur-Spain-Huelva-Plaque-Biomorph Whiskered



**Formal Label:** Late Neolithic slate plaque ca. 3,500–2,750 BCE) Badajoz, Spain

**Accession Number:**

**Date or Time Horizon:** **3500-2750 BCE**

**Geographical Area:** SW Spain

**Cultural Affiliation:** Late Neolithic

**Medium:** Slate

**Dimensions:**

**Weight:**

**Provenance:**

**Condition: Excellent**

**Discussion:**

This Late Neolithic engraved slate plaque ca. 3,500–2,750 BCE (calibrated age) from La Pijotilla2, Badajoz, Spain (southwest Iberian Peninsula) has three registers: a lower register of six levels of cross-hatcheurs, a middle register of two cross-hatcheurs set off by horizontal lines and an upper register of “eye” designs with a drilled hole through which strings were passed (based on use-wear analysis) so that it was worn as an amulet. While each of the six to ten “styles” of these slate plaques is distinctive in its specific details, each style exhibits a consistency in basic form, structure, and grammar.

The emergence of craft specialization in Late Neolithic Iberia reflects a shift in growing cultural stability in which various tribal groups began to coalesce around identities of social expression. These identities are reflected in the expressions of grammars of design incorporated into these engraved slates. The social shift underlying these design grammars represents articulation of social identities of several groups to a coalescence of these groups into cultural nodes reflective of fewer identities (Clark and Blake 2004; Flad and Hruby 2007; Helms 1993; Sennett 2008).

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SLATE PLAQUE CHALCOLITHIC ANTHROPOMORPHIC IDOL.

Southwest Iberian Bronze Age type. Similar published in the:"Iberian Antiquities from the collection of Leon Levy & Shelby White", Figure 4, page 30.

Size: 4,8 x 3,7 centimeters.

Dated: Twenty to Fifteen Century Before Christ.

Condition: Excellent, calcareum adhesions cleaned in the anverse.

Provenance: Belgian Collection acquired 1980´s.