AM000-Asia-China-Four Shan-Shou Chou Region-3rd century BCE

NK7983.A1

Shan "T" Mirror, Shou Chou Region, China. 3rd century BCE.

Diam. 18.8 cm.

This mirror reflects the Han Chinese reverence for mountains with "T" symbols, the sign of “mountain”. The symbolic significance of mountains on these bronze mirrors is metaphorical. The Mountain symbols are invariably set on a background of clouds and the entire scene thus represents impermanence as the mountains become enveloped in heavenly vapor.

Similar to Karlgren (1941) C 51, Pl. 18 except round central band: "from which project four petals, prolonged into stalks, with outer petals , intermediate petals connected by bands with the points of the inner petals ... on top of the outer petals are the curious "flail"-like figures ... striped commas on a granulated ground; four slanting T's. Shou-chou region."

Referemce:

Karlgren, Bernhard. 1941*. Huai and Han.* Östasiatiska samlingarna, Stockholm. Bulletin. no. 13 Stockholm: [Printed by Ab. Hasse W. Tullberg].