



Inv. no. 5/1970

FRITWARE DISH, PAINTED IN BLACK UNDER A TRANSPARENT,  
TURQUOISE GLAZE

SYRIA, RAQQA; BEGINNING OF 13TH CENTURY

H: 10,5; DIAM: 37 CM

Raqqa pottery from the 13th century is distinctive for the vitality of its painted decoration, which is essentially different from the far more meticulous style that characterized contemporary Iranian ceramics.

This bowl is decorated with a leaping panther with a little head and extremely long legs, rounded in elegant curves. It is a further development of the kind of animal depictions found on Tell Minis ware).

Four-legged predators are classical symbols of power and are frequently found in Islamic art.

Published in:

*C.L. Davids Samling. Fjerde Del : Jubilæumsskrift 1945-70*,  
København 1970, cat.no. 16, p. 285;  
André Leth: *Davids Samling. Islamisk kunst = The David Collection. Islamic Art*, København 1975, p. 28;  
*Art from the World of Islam. 8th-18th century*, Louisiana, Humlebæk  
1987, cat.no. 87;  
Kjeld von Folsach: *Islamic art. The David Collection*, Copenhagen  
1990, cat.no.135;  
Kjeld von Folsach: *Art from the World of Islam in The David  
Collection*, Copenhagen 2001, cat.no. 193;  
Anne-Marie Keblow Bernsted: *Early Islamic pottery: materials and  
techniques*, London 2003, fig. 35, p. 28;