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TWO PIECES FROM A SILVER BELT, EMBOSSED, CHASED, AND ENGRAVED

IRAN OR CENTRAL ASIA; 1250-1350

H WITH RING: 7.7; D WITHOUT RIVETS: C. 0.5 CM

These two pieces were made with the repoussé technique, in which the motif was embossed from the back. It probably decorated a belt, and the rings were used to attach weapons or a purse, for example.

Both the curved arch at the top of the two pieces and the lotus-like arabesques on the background are motifs that are typical of Il-Khanid art in Iran. The quite true-to-life depictions of deer are also characteristic of the Il-Khanid period, when similar animals were found on ceramics of the Sultanabad type.

Published in:
Christie's, London, 18/10-1994, lot 372;
Kjeld von Folsach: *Art from the World of Islam in The David Collection*, Copenhagen 2001, cat.no. 576;