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JUG, PARCEL-GILT SILVER, EMBOSSED, ENGRAVED, AND PUNCHED, WITH A CAST HANDLE

OTTOMAN EMPIRE; C. 1550

H: 11.8 CM

The form and dragon handle of this jug make it resemble Timurid models from the 15th century. The decoration's spiral stems resemble the ones found on *tughras* on Ottoman *firman*s and on the group of Iznik pottery called Golden Horn, or *tughrakes* type.

Written sources describe how jugs made of precious metal were chained to the many drinking fountains in the palaces. A jug like this one may have served such a purpose. Not many objects of gold and silver from the 16th century have been preserved; innumerable wars often required sacrifices in art as well.

Published in:
Sotheby's, London, 16/4-1986, lot 73;

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Soliman le Magnifique: 15 fevrier au 14 mai 1990, Galeries Nationales du Grand Palais, Paris 1990, 1987, cat.no. 188;
Kjeld von Folsach: *Islamic art. The David Collection*, Copenhagen 1990, cat.no. 354;
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Karin Rührdanz: "Ein Kändlein von Schwartzgriener Igiada": Persianate nephrite vessels" in *Mediaeval and Modern Iranian studies : proceedings of the 6th European Conference of Iranian Studies (Vienna, 2007)*, Leuven 2011, fig. 2;
Yuka Kadoi: "From China to Denmark: a "Mosque lamp" in context" in *Journal of the David Collection*, 4, 2014, p. 215, fig. 14;