

## Ancient Bronze Pieces

# Bronze foot wearing an elegant sandal

Artist: unknown  
Date: II century B.C.  
Dimensions: 10,2 x 26,4 x 7,6 cm  
Material: bronze  
Inventory no: 65704

### STATE OF PRESERVATION

The piece is broken in three parts and lacks the ankle portion. The entire surface is completely encrusted with organic residues and by-products of the bronze corrosion.

### RESTORATION PROJECT

- Cleaning and eliminating the corrosive salt by-products
- Washing
- Mechanical cleaning
- Stabilizing the residual products of corrosion
- Consolidation of the fractures (they can be perfectly reassembled together)
- Protective final layer
- Creation of a support to display the piece
- Photographic documentation

Total Cost € 3.700,00



► This elegant bronze foot comes from the city of Otricoli (*Otriculum*) and was found during the archaeological excavation of this Roman city under the pontificate of Pope Pius VI (1775-1799). During this period, the statue of Zeus (*Zeus di Otricoli*) was also found there and is currently on display in the Pius Christian Museum. This piece exhibits an incredible rendering of the smallest details: its dimensions suggest that the statue to which it belonged was nearly a human size sculpture, possibly a deity or a heroic emperor. In fact, this foot wears a Greek sandal (*crepida, cepidula*), which is decorated with a small delicate rose in the centre. In Roman sculpture, this kind of sandal is worn by both feminine and masculine deities, poets, orators, or philosophers.

