Object: Phallic figurine

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Inventory a1/8
number:

## Description

Mizyn sculpture is a unique phenomenon of the oldest art. The original style of the figurines immediately attracted the attention of researchers. Its attribution became the subject of a debate that continues to this day. Khvedir Vovk found the phallic statuette in 1909 during the excavations of the site. It is made as a round sculpture from a cylindrical blank. The upper part is an elongated, slightly curved rod thinned at the end. The lower part has shortened and thickened proportions. The rounded ridge separates the lower part from the three sides. The item has a smooth surface. There is an incised ornament in the form of parallel chevrons on the convex sides. There are small notches on the flattened front side. They are bordering a complex graphic composition. Below it, there are numerous thin dashes between vertical long lines.

Mizyn phallic figurines are schematized images of the male phallus complemented with female themes (ornament). There is also a version that these are stylized male statuettes with a graphic image of a face in a fur hood. Below the face, there is an engraved phallus or beard.

Ancient humans probably used it during ceremonies, rites, for example, initiations.

## Basic data

Material/Technique: Mammoth tusk, chipping, turning, carving

Measurements: 1 142, w 40 mm

## **Events**

Created When 15 000 років тому

Who

Where Mezine

Found When 1909

Who Fedir Vovk (1847-1918)

Where село Мезин

[Relation to When

person or institution]

Who Кабінет антропології та етнології ім. Хв. Вовка

(1921-1934)

Where

## Keywords

• Верхній палеоліт