

Basic Detail Report



Disk

Date

900-1460

Primary Maker

Chimú

Medium

silver alloy

Description

This silver disk is one of four which Dr. Junius Bird, formerly of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, has cited from what he calls "Litter No. 2 Tomb,"

excavated in the vicinity of Chan Chan near Trujillo, Peru. The exact function of the disc is unknown but it was possibly a shield cover or an adornment for the interior of a palace. A central boss is ringed by four concentric repousse bands, each composed of anthropomorphic and zoomorphic figures. The complex iconography appears to focus on the interplay of human and animal forms within various geographic settings which include water, earth and air.

Dimensions

Overall: 7/8 x 13 1/2 in. (2.2 x 34.3 cm)