



Hour Glass Vessel (Salvilla)

Date

ca. 200-500

Primary Maker

Gran Coclé

Medium

pottery and slip paint

Description

The visual focus of this piece is the smaller, central area of the stand. Red and black colors give it an intense visual energy that attracts the eye. This hourglass-shaped vessel is called a salvilla and is decorated in the Tonosí style.

This unique style is one of the first in the chronology of Gran Coclé pottery and this example may originate from the Gulf of Montijo. The combination of a thick grayish-white slip and a dark brown paste, lacking the use of purple paint, is characteristic of ceramics from this area. Broken pottery sherds of this style are frequently found in rubbish dumps, unlike later ceramics, which are associated almost exclusively with mortuary features.

Dimensions

Overall: 6 7/8 x 7 3/4 x 7 1/2 in. (17.5 x 19.7 x 19.1 cm)