

COLNAGHI



ATTRIBUTED TO THE ALKIMACHOS PAINTER
A Red-figure Nolan Amphora

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Greek

Attic, ca. 470-460 B.C.

Red-figure Nolan Amphora

Terracotta

h. 33 cm

13 in.

Provenance

Albert Michaut (1894-1981), Nancy, France; thence by descent to his grandchildren.
Antiquities, Sotheby's, New York, 7 June 2007, lot 35.

Literature

Beazley Archive Pottery Database no. 9021687.



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This vase is an excellent work attributed to the Alkimachos Painter, an Athenian red-figure artist identified by J. D. Beazley on the basis of *kalos* inscriptions bearing the name “Alkimachos” on vases now in the Staatliche Antikensammlungen, Munich (inv. 2325) and the British Museum, London (inv. 1867,0508.1055).

One side shows Dionysos dressed in a chiton and himation, with a fillet in his hair. He holds a thyrsos and an ivy branch in one hand, while extending a kantharos in the other. The reverse features a bearded satyr wrapped in a himation and adorned with a wreath highlighted in added red.

Although occasionally reflecting the influence of the Pan Painter, the Alkimachos Painter worked in a variety of shapes, most notably producing small amphorae—particularly the Nolan type—as exemplified by the present piece. For further discussion of the artist, see J. D. Beazley, *Attic Red-Figure Vase-Painters*, pp. 529–533.

This vase represents the Athenian, and wider Greek, penchant for depicting figures associated with wine on their vessels. Large amphorae were meant for storing and transporting wine, while small amphorae such as this one were meant for storing a smaller quantity to bring out and serve during a meal, mixed in a krater with water poured from an oinochoe. This set of vessels corresponded to a series of rituals associated with the famed symposium, a central ritual of male socialization in Athens and across the Greek world.

Comparanda



New York, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 41.162.16.

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