



COLNAGHI

A Statue of a Priest or an Official

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Egyptian Late Period

26th Dynasty, Reign of Necho II, 610-595 B.C.

Statue of a Priest or an Official

Greywacke

h: 22.2 cm; 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.

Provenance

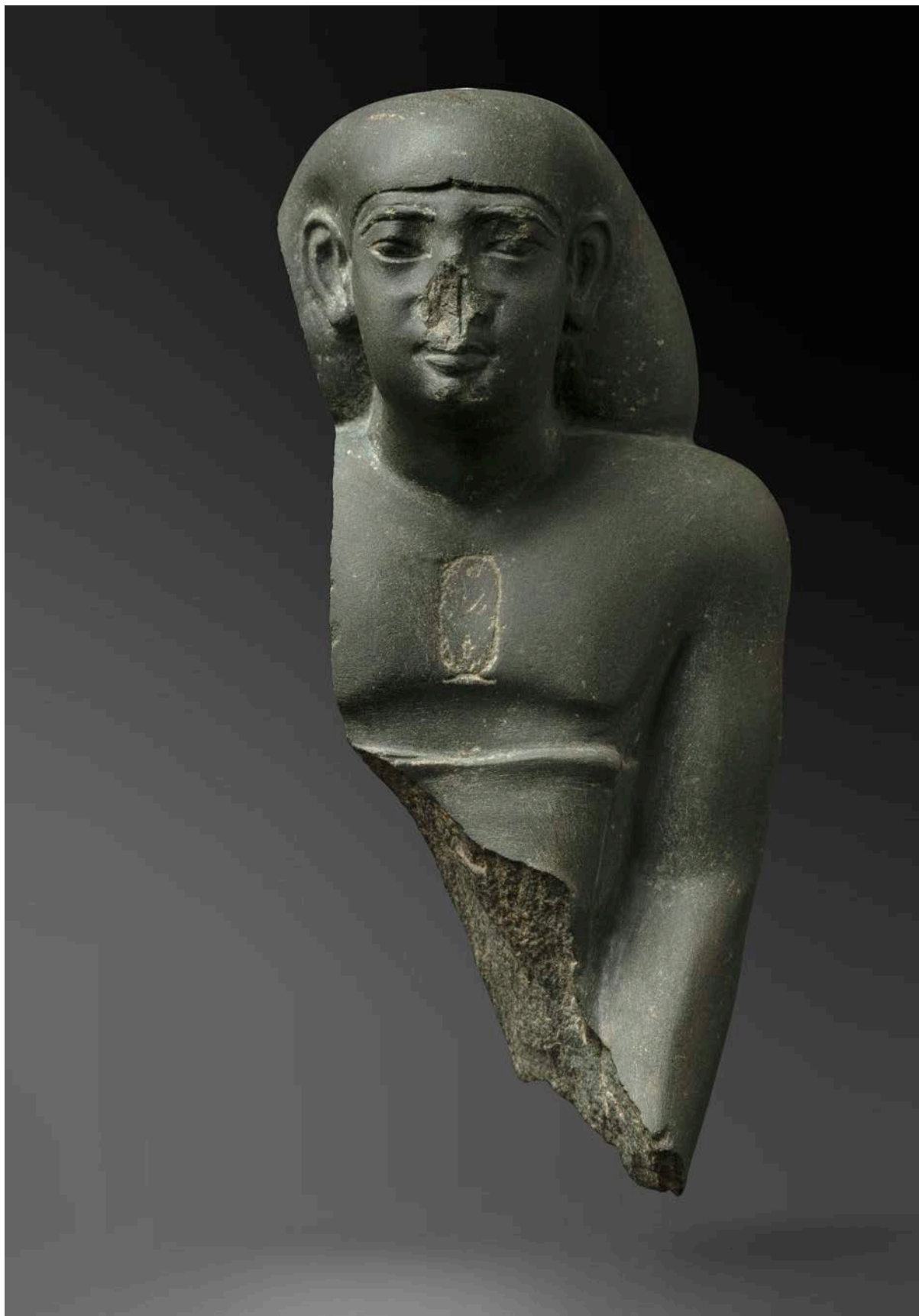
Theodore Halkedis (1932-2001) and Aristeia S. Halkedis (1933-2014), 'The Thalassic Collection', New York;

Private collection, Belgium.

Exhibited

Michael C. Carlos Museum, Emory University, Atlanta, 2001

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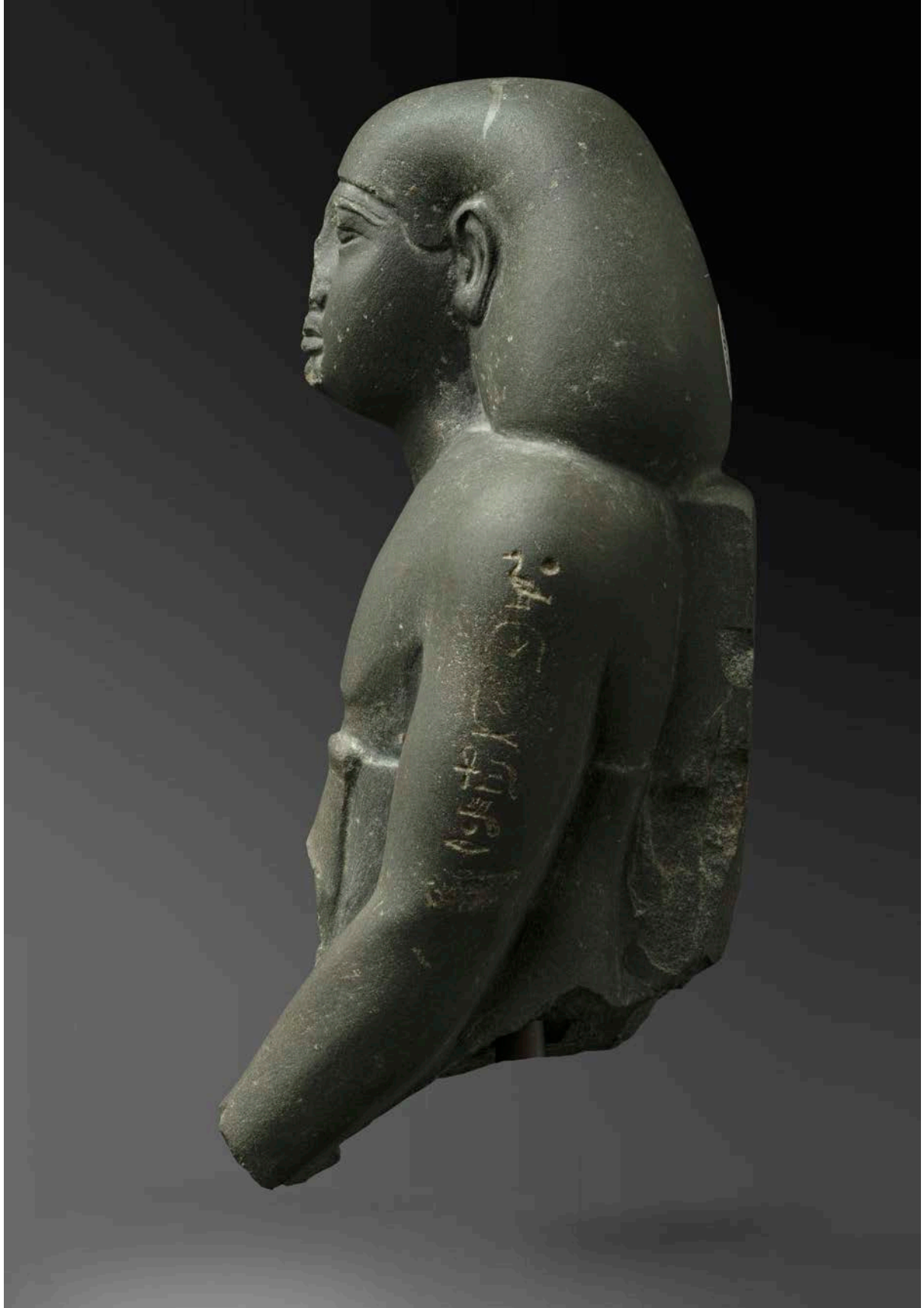
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This object, its lower half missing, is the remainder of a standing statue originally holding a shrine, a pose common in Dynasty 26. On the chest is a partially erased cartouche, below which the top of a high skirt is visible. The left forearm is bent forward, but its hand, which would have grasped one side of the shrine, is lost. The right side is sheared off below the shoulder. At the rear, a small part of a finely engraved back pillar unfortunately does not include the name of the subject. The well-modeled face, realistic for its time, and bag wig are intact except for the nose and right lower portion of the headdress. The latter has a cusp at its centerline, an unusual detail seen only in mid-Dynasty 26. Sculpted more than a half-century after the end of Dynasty 25, this fine statuette still retains some stylistic characteristics of that era, including a rather fleshy face, "Kushite folds" along the nose, and a short, full-lipped mouth.

Unquestionably this object dates to the reign of Necho II, despite an attempt at erasure, presumably ordered by Necho's son, Psamtik II.¹ Enough remains of both the king's names to be quite secure in their reading. The chest bears the name Wehemibre, the arm, Necho.

Comparanda



Private Collection (USA), exhibited at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri, September 28th-November 15th, 1987.

¹ See Nicolas Grimal, *A History of Ancient Egypt*, trans. by Ian Shaw (Oxford, 1992), p. 362.

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