



# HIXENBAUGH ANCIENT ART

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Hixenbaugh Ancient Art Presents: *Gods of Antiquity***

NEW YORK, April 7, 2016 – Hixenbaugh Ancient Art is pleased to announce its latest gallery exhibition, “Gods of Antiquity.” The exhibition represents a sampling of images of ancient deities from a variety of cultures dating to the earliest period of representational art to pinnacle of Classical civilization.

The supernatural permeated all aspects of life in antiquity. Initially, the only way that ancient humans could explain the unseen forces of the universe was through attributing them to the actions of gods. Primordial gods in all societies were associated with the most basic forces of nature: light and dark, birth and death, masculine and feminine. These most fundamental notions of divinity were essential to early man’s understanding of the world around him.

As societies advanced, deities came to represent a much wider array of forces including sensations, ideas, and industries. The gods became allegorical personifications of both natural forces and human emotions. Many deities were conceived as animals or as beings with zoomorphic attributes. It is easy to see how certain animals with physical abilities that far exceeded humans were thought to be closely related to the gods of the sky, earth, and sea. In all societies, the pantheon of gods and goddesses grew as the society matured. Old gods took on new aspects. New gods were conceived to personify new ideas. In time, gods and goddesses the world over came to be complex mythological beings that presided over a wide range of both mortal and immortal happenings. In many instances gods were not only revered but also feared. Priesthoods developed to ensure the proper devotion to deities thereby maintaining order in the universe. Gods and goddesses came to be patron deities of certain locations, protectors of certain individuals and nations, spirit guides, judges, advocates, adversaries, and sometimes casual meddlers in human affairs.

“Gods of Antiquity” features representations of major deities of the Egyptian cosmology, Osiris, Nut, Isis, Anubis, Ptah, and Bastet. The deities of the Greco-Roman pantheon include, Zeus, Athena, Aphrodite, Hermes, Asclepius, Apollo, and Dionysos. Also on view are a selection of pre-Columbian gods, including, Cojico, Huehucoyotl, and the Olmec Rain Spirit.

Hixenbaugh Ancient Art’s exhibition “Gods of Antiquity” opens April 7th and runs through March 28<sup>th</sup> (11am – 6pm, Tuesday – Saturday). An opening reception will be held on April 7th from 6pm to 8pm. As always, a large collection of fine quality authentic antiquities can be viewed on the Hixenbaugh Ancient Art web site ([www.hixenbaugh.net](http://www.hixenbaugh.net)). As always, a large collection of fine quality authentic antiquities can be viewed on the Hixenbaugh Ancient Art web site ([www.hixenbaugh.net](http://www.hixenbaugh.net)).



*Roman Bronze Fortuna*

## ABOUT HIXENBAUGH ANCIENT ART

Hixenbaugh Ancient Art, located in the Chelsea neighborhood of Manhattan, is dedicated to handling fine authentic antiquities (Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Judaeen, Greek, Roman, Celtic, and Pre-Columbian Art). All of the pieces we handle are legally acquired, in complete accordance with US and international regulations and laws concerning the import and sale of ancient objects. All objects are guaranteed genuine and as described. Hixenbaugh Ancient Art is a member of the Art and Antique Dealers League of America (AADLA), the Confederation Internationale des Negociants en Oeuvres d'Art (CINOA), the Appraisers Association of America (AAA), and the International Association of Dealers in Ancient Art (IADAA).

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At Hixenbaugh Ancient Art, we believe that responsible collecting of antiquities is not only a pleasurable pursuit and wise investment, but an important responsibility. Today's collectors are custodians of the past, links in a chain, preserving the past for future generations by passing their collections on to their heirs, reselling them to eager collectors, or donating them to museums. In doing so, the collector of ancient art reaps the many benefits of acquiring truly unique and thought provoking objects that have come down to us from the ancients, whose influences pervade every aspect of the modern world.

If you would like more information about this topic contact Robert O'Donnell or Randall Hixenbaugh at (212) 989-9743 or [info@hixenbaugh.net](mailto:info@hixenbaugh.net).