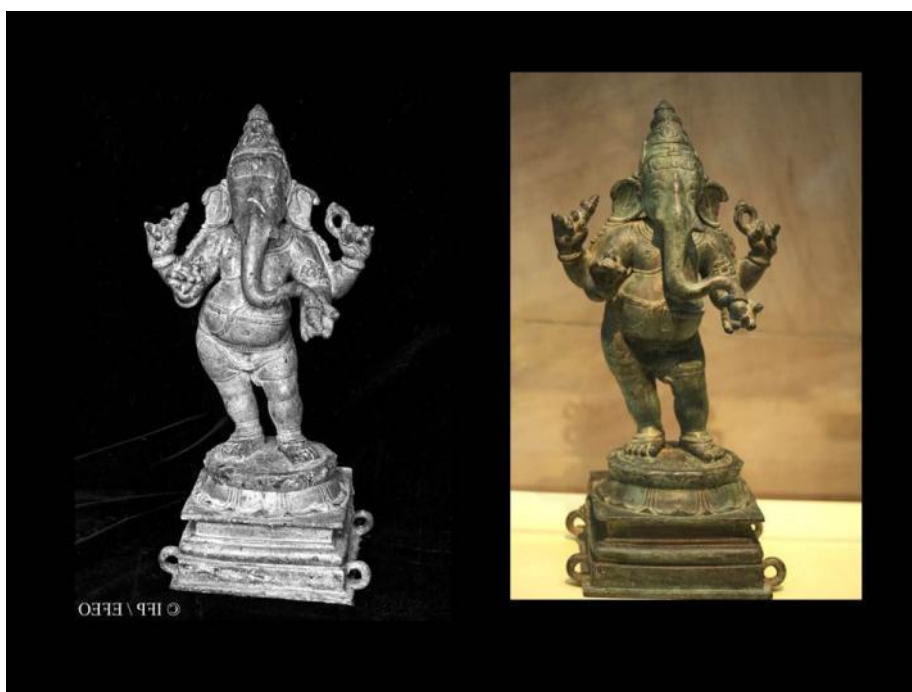


Sripuranthan Bronze Ganesha

Item Listing: SCK000004	Name & Material: Ganesha, Bronze
Origin: Bragadeeshwara Temple, Sripuranthan village, Tamil Nadu, India	Period: Chola Dynasty, 10-11 th C CE
Status: Case registered PS Cr.No.133/08 u/s 380(1) IPC Vikramangalam, transferred to Idol Wing CID Cr.No.12/08 u/s 41(d) & 102 CrPC.	Valuation: 245,000. Usd (2006)
Current location: Toledo Museum, America	Evidence / Proof: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Photo archives from the French Institute Pondicherry – documented on 23rd Nov 1994.2. Matching of visible clues (wear and tear damages) between the IFP archive photo and current.3. Letters written by the Museum to the Indian consulate and to the Indian ambassador.
Current Status: Idol is still on display.The museum has handed over the case to ICE USA.	copies of supportings attached as annexures.



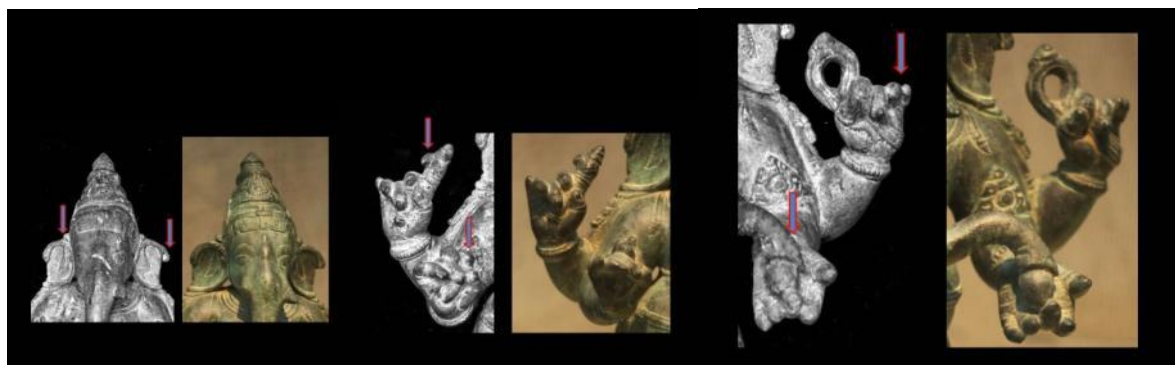
Exhibits/supporting Proof:

1) IFP archive date (photographing in situ) on 23rd Nov 1994

ROLL_NO	EXPO_NO	DATE	PLACE	DISTRICT	TALUK	MONUMENT	SUBJECT
11208	1	23-Nov-94	SRIPURANDAN	Tiruchchirappalli	Udayarpalayam	Siva Temple, Sri Brahadisvara	Ganapati



2) Iconographical matching of IFP archive photo with the current gallery exhibit:



3) Letters written by the Museum to the Indian consulate and to the Indian ambassador.





July 24, 2013

Mr. Sugandh Rajaram
Indian Consul for Culture
C/o Consulate General of India
3 E 64th Street
New York City, NY 10065

Dear Mr. Rajaram,

We would like to ask your assistance in our research regarding a sculpture we purchased in 2006 from the Indian art dealer, Subhash Kapoor, who was the owner of the gallery, Art of the Past in New York City. The sculpture is a Chola bronze of Ganesha, and at the time we received a provenance affidavit that seemed to legitimately check out as it had a phone number included and we confirmed the history of the piece after our curator spoke to the owner. Given the news reports about Mr. Kapoor, we are investigating the works we purchased or received as gifts from him. He was at the time of these dealings, regarded as a respected art dealer as was his father before him, who sold Indian art globally for many years.

It has come to our attention that a sculpture that seems to resemble ours has appeared on a police report from the Vikramangalam station as a stolen work from Sripuranthan Village in Tamil Nadu. But the picture we were able to find online is very poor quality, so we cannot be sure they are one and the same. Can you help us in our continued research? If indeed the sculpture proves to be stolen, we would want to repatriate the sculpture back to the temple where it rightfully belongs.

This is a very stressful situation for us, as we always strive to be absolutely meticulous concerning provenance before purchasing any work of art. We have no other representations of Ganesha in our collection and, ever since we acquired the sculpture, it has been an important addition to our small Indian collection, used to teach our audiences about the Hindu religion and of course the outstanding Chola period of bronze making.

If you could offer us some assistance in our continued research on this piece we would be most grateful. We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian P. Kennedy".

Dr. Brian P. Kennedy, Director
Toledo Museum of Art

Encl: 2

Toledo Museum of Art
P.O. Box 1013
Toledo, Ohio 43687
419.255.8300
419.255.5633 fax