

Basic Detail Report



Prayer Cymbals (Ting-shags)

Date

20th Century

Medium

Copper and fiber

Description

This object is a set of small prayer cymbals, or Ting-shags.

These cymbals are often used as a tool of personal meditation and offering in Tibetan Buddhism, along with other instruments such as singing bowls or hand drums. Connected by a cord, the cymbals are held aloft and struck together horizontally upon their edges, producing a long, clear ringing tone. High quality cymbals are so exact in shape and size that they produce the exact same pitch. While meditating, the sound produced by the cymbals is said to summon spirits and is regarded as an offering symbolic of the five senses.

Dimensions

Flexible - rope extended across: $15 \frac{3}{8} \times 3 \frac{1}{4}$ in. (39.1×8.3 cm) Flexible - rope held up: $6 \frac{1}{2} \times 6 \frac{1}{2} \times 3 \frac{1}{4}$ in. ($16.5 \times 16.5 \times 8.3$ cm) Cymbal: $1 \times 3 \frac{1}{4} \times 3 \frac{1}{4}$ in. ($2.5 \times 8.3 \times 8.3$ cm)