



A Winged Genius

Date

883–859 BCE

Medium

alabaster

Description

Eight panels, cemented together, and reinforced with channel irons in an oak frame. Right arm raised in a gesture of anointing, this semi-divine genie stands with a date-palm spatheca flower associated with fertility and magical protection in Assyrian mythology in its right hand. It carries a pail in its left hand. The horned cap and double wings are attributes of divinity as is the knee-length tunic with tassels worn beneath a fringed coat. This semi-divine genie wears earrings, armbands and a necklace; his bracelets are decorated with a rosette, perhaps a symbol of the goddess Ishtar and associated with fertility.

Dimensions

236.8 x 133.4 cm (93 1/4 x 52 1/2 in.)