

296–301 PORPHYRY

from  
JEAN-CLAUDE CIANCIMINO's  
*Alchemical toy-cupboard*



296 CONSTELLATED RED PORPHYRY GRINDING STONE AND PESTLE

*India, 19th century or earlier*

*Size of stone: 28 × 17 cm*

*Size of pestle: 28 cm long*

297 PAIR OF RED PORPHYRY CYLINDERS

*Gebel Dokhan, Egypt, 1st–2nd century AD*

*Size: 9 cm high*

298 THREE INDIAN PORPHYRY PESTLES

*Mandya district, Kamataka,*

*19th century or earlier*

*a. Intense red porphyry, chipped – Size: 28 cm long*

*b. Brownish porphyry with a silver alloy sheath over the handle – Size: 29 cm long*

*c. Octagonal faceted intense red porphyry – Size: 14 cm long*

Mines in the vicinity of Seringapatam were the principal source of porphyry in India. Hard-stone pestles such as these were produced for craftsmen, for such things as grinding minerals for pigments.

299 RED PORPHYRY DODECAGONAL MORTAR AND PESTLE

300 PORPHYRY ROUNDEL

*Probably from Gebel Dokhan Mountain,*

*Egypt, 1st–2nd century AD*

*Size: 40 cm diameter*

This is a slice taken from a column, and was therefore probably mined and shaped in Roman times, for re-use in the floor or wall of a Byzantine monument.

301 RED PORPHYRY BALUSTER PLINTH

*Gebel Dokhan mountain, Egypt,*

*1st–2nd century AD*

*Size: 7.5 cm high, 12 cm long*