



Guhyasamaja Akshobhavraja with Consort

Date

15th century

Medium

Gilt copper with inlays of semiprecious stones and pigment

Description

Guhyasamaja is one of the main tantric deities (yidam) who are the focus of the contemplative esoteric practice in Gelug tradition. The seated couple is in sexual embrace, each deity has three heads and six arms, their hands are crossed in front of each other's chest holding a vajra and bell. In their right hands are a lotus and the wheel. In their left hands are a sword of and a flaming jewel. The two deities represent the same enlightened nature indicated by their hand implements, which together symbolize the union of all the qualities of the Buddha families. Akshobya, which means "the unmovable," is believed to help the practitioner to master

anger, one of the main afflictions that perpetuate the endless cycle of death and rebirth.

Dimensions

8 3/4 × 7 5/8 × 6 5/8 in.