

Right: at just £90, among the most affordable pieces in the Christmas catalogue produced by antiquities specialists **Charles Ede Limited** is this c.1400BC Egyptian amulet of the Djed Pillar, the emblem of stability, in pale green faience.



The ancient past for a Christmas present...

IT is always surprising how inexpensive and wearable much jewellery from the ancient world can be. Although much of the stock is beyond the grasp of many, each year in late November the Mayfair antiquities dealership **Charles Ede Limited** publishes a Christmas catalogue of affordable antiquities – stocking fillers for the more generous of pocket.

Prices range from under £100 to £6000, but among the 70 items this year many are priced under £1000, in keeping with the 'New Collectors' section on the Charles Ede website, which searches the inventory for items under £1000. The Egyptian, Greek and Roman works of art in the catalogue include sculpture, pottery, glass, jewellery and

a Hellenistic terracotta moulds from the Bellon Collection. At one end of the price scale is the £90 Egyptian amulet, **above**. At the other is a 2nd/3rd century AD Roman marble stele carved in relief from the Eastern Empire, probably Syria.

Priced at £6750, it shows a figure wearing a toga and is inscribed in Greek *Gora, causing no pain, farewell*, a form common on Syrian monuments.

The catalogue can be viewed online from the end of the month at www.charlesede.com, but viewing is by appointment only at 20 Brook Street, London W1.