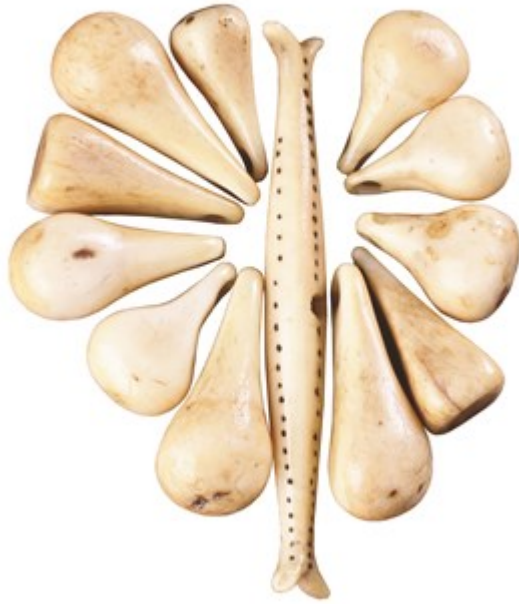


Finch & C^o



J O H N B R A T B Y R . A

TWELVE ESKIMO AMULETIC HUNTING TOGGLES / PENDANTS
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CREAMY SMOOTH PATINA

WALRUS IVORY

INUIT / BERING SEA

18TH CENTURY OR EARLIER

SIZE: MAX: 6CMLONG - 2¼ INS LONG / MIN: 2CMLONG - ¾ INS LONG

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LITERATURE

IVORY AMULETS WERE MADE BY SHAMANS AND INDIVIDUAL HUNTERS FOR SUPERNATURAL AID AND PROTECTION. THEY WERE PASSED DOWN THROUGH FAMILIES AS TREASURED HEIRLOOMS AND WERE USED TO INFLUENCE A TUTELARY OR HELPING SPIRIT. THESE SMALL SCULPTURES WERE SO IMPORTANT TO THE BELIEFS OF THE COMMUNITY THAT NOTHING COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT THEIR HELP.

PROVENANCE

EX SUMMERFIELD COLLECTION (MR SUMMERFIELD WAS A BOOK DEALER / COLLECTOR IN CHELTENHAM, ENGLAND. WHEN HE PASSED AWAY THE SHOP AND HOME ABOVE, HOUSING THE CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION WERE SO NUMEROUS, AN ENORMOUS QUANTITY OF BOXES, ITEMS STACKED ONE UPON ANOTHER, THE SORTING AND DISPERSAL TOOK MANY WEEKS, WITH AUCTIONS DIVDED BETWEEN CHRISTIES (AT THE LOCAL RACE COURSE) AND BRUTON KNOWLES AUCTION ROOMS, AUCTIONS TOOK PLACE OVER A NUMBER OF WEEKS. RUMOUR CIRCULATED THAT THE FRONT DOOR HAD TO BE PHYSICALLY REMOVED DUE TO SO MANY ITEMS FALLING DOWN BEHIND THE DOOR IMPEDING ENTRY!

SOLD BRUTON KNOWLES AUCTION ROOMS, CIRCA AUTUMN 1989

EX PRIVATE COLLECTION