## Finch & Co



## A VERY FINE KELAMANTAN BASKET, BORNEO

A VERY FINE KELAWANTAN BASKET, BORNEO, INDONESIA LATE 19 TH CENTURY – EARLY 20 TH CENTURY SIZE: 35.5 CMLONG, 18 CMDIA – 14 INS LONG, 7 INS DIA

## LITERATURE

THE KELAWANTAN, MANY OF WHOM WERE NOMAD HUNTERS, ARE RENOWNED FOR THEIR WOVEN BASKETRY. BOTH MEN AND WOMEN WEAVE AND THEIR BASKET WORK IS OF A HIGH STANDARD.

INDONESIAN DECORATIVE ART IS GENERALLY CHARACTERISED BY A TENDENCY TO IRREGULAR SCROLLWORK AND PLANT DESIGNS ARE FREQUENTLY USED AND INTERPRETED. IN BORNEO THE WOVEN PATTERNS ARE REPRESENTATIONS OF ANIMALS AND PLANTS AND IT IS BELIEVED THAT THEIR USE AFFORDS MAGICAL PROTECTION TO THE OWNER OF THE BASKET FROM GENERAL MISFORTUNE.