Finch & Co



AN UNUSUAL FINELY CARVED WOOD DOUBLE HEADED SNUFF BOX FROM SRI LANKA

AN UNUSUAL FINELY CARVED WOOD DOUBLE HEADED SNUFF BOX FROM SRI LANKA , WITH IVORY TEETH AND HORN EYES DEPICTING A STYLISED TIGER'S HEAD AND PARROT'S HEAD

19 TH CENTURY

SIZE : 9 CM HIGH , 9 CM WIDE – 3½ INS HIGH , 3½ INS WIDE

LITERATURE

IN THE 17 TH CENTURY THE DUTCH SETTLEMENTS ON THE COROMANDEL COAST AND IN COLONIAL CEYLON EACH HAD A CRAFTSMEN'S QUARTER OR 'AMBACHTSKWERTIER' WHERE EUROPEAN AND LOCAL CABINET MAKERS WORKED TOGETHER UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DUTCH FOREMEN .

THE INDIGENOUS CRAFTSMEN'S EXPOSURE TO WESTERN GOODS GREW WITH THE EXPANSION OF THE PORTUGUESE , DUTCH AND ENGLISH PRESENCE IN CEYLON . BY THE 19 TH CENTURY THE CONVERGENCE OF A DIVERSE RANGE OF OBJECTS AND THE DECORATIVE TRADITIONS AND TECHNIQUES OF THE EUROPEAN COLONIALISTS HAD CREATED AN ATMOSPHERE THAT WAS CONDUCIVE TO BOTH ARTISTIC AND TECHNICAL EXCHANGE , AS EVIDENCED IN THIS UNUSUAL DOUBLE HEADED SNUFF BOX .