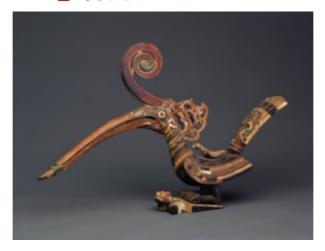
Finch & C°



A RARE ANCESTOR BIRD FIGURE FROM THE IBAN DAYAK PEOPLE'S OF SARAWAK, BORNEO

A RARE ANCESTOR BIRD FIGURE FROM THE IBAN DAYAK PEOPLE'S OF SARAWAK , BORNEO . CARVED AND PAINTED WOOD LATE 19 TH - EARLY 20 TH CENTURY

SIZE: 39 CMHIGH, $58.5 \text{ CMWIDE} - 15 \frac{1}{2} \text{ INS HIGH}$, 23 INS WIDE

LITERATURE

GREAT HORNBILLS HAVE ENORMOUS DOWN CURVED BILLS USUALLY SURMOUNTED BY A GROTESQUE HORNEY CASQUE AND CAN MEASURE UP TO 5 FEET LONG. THEY ARE NOT BEAUTIFUL BIRDS BUT ARE INTRIGUING, FASCINATING AND AWAZING IN THEIR UNIQUE HABITS. THEY MATE FOR LIFE AND ARE OFTEN REGARDED AS SYMBOLS OF PURITY AND FIDELITY.

THE DAYAK REGARD THE GREAT HORNBILL AS RELATED TO THE SOUL AND THE ANCESTRAL SPIRIT WORLD. THESE CAREFULLY CARVED WOODEN BIRD FIGURES WERE DISPLAYED IN FESTIVALS HONOURING THE GOD OF WAR AND AT CELEBRATIONS OF SUCCESSFUL HEAD HUNTING.