## Finch & C°



39 An English Bronze bust of a man as Africa

Nac: 25cm high

African were first brought to Britain in 1555 and by the 18th Century they were familiar figures in English swirely However their depiction in art in the early 19th Century still sevend to give their a sense of enseition. Scripton

By the end of the 18th Century the anti-darray meloty was becoming influential and the notion of the trequisted noble savage was gaining currency and complianting to the developing abeliannia case.

Arrian began to portury a more poserful and positive, but somewhat numeric image of black people, and the house was not not mirred with the white supermaria befor in colonial rule.

It was in this mountain spirit that this because was retraited

## AN ENGLISH BRONZE BUST OF A MAN AS AFRICA

AN ENGLISH BRONZE BUST OF A MAN AS AFRICA CIRCA 1800-1820 SIZE: 23 CM HIGH

## LITERATURE

AFRICANS WERE FIST BROUGHT TO BRITAIN IN 1555 AND BY THE 18TH CENTURY THEY WERE FAMILIAR FIGURES IN ENGLISH SOCIETY. HOWEVER THEIR DEPICTION IN ART IN THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY STILL SERVED TO GIVE THEMA SENSE OF EXOTICISM. SCULPTURE OFTEN PORTRAYED THEMAS THE PERSONIFICATION OF THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA, AMERICA OR THE INDIES.

BY THE END OF THE 18TH CENTURY THE ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY WAS BECOMING INFLUENTIAL AND THE NOTION OF THE FREE SPIRITED NOBLE SAVAGE WAS GAINING CURRENCY AND CONTRIBUTING TO THE DEVELOPING ABOLITIONIST CASE. ARTISTS BEGAN TO PORTRAY A MORE POWERFUL AND POSITIVE, BUT SOMEWHAT ROMANTIC IMAGE OF BLACK PEOPLE, AND THIS IMAGE WAS NOT YET TAINTED WITH THE WHITE SUPREMACIST BELIEF IN COLNIAL RULE. IT WAS IN THIS ROMANTIC SPIRIT THAT THIS BRONZE WAS CREATED.