Finch & Co



TWO SANTA CRUZ, SOLOMAN ISLANDS, BREAST PENDANTS 'TEMA'

TWO SANTA CRUZ, SOLOMAN ISLANDS, BREAST PENDANTS 'TEMA'
KNOWN AS 'KAP KAP'
LATE 19TH CENTURY - EARLY 20TH CENTURY
SIZE : 15CM DIAMETER AND 14.5 CM DIAMETER
6 INS DIAMETER AND 5 INS DIAMETER

LITERATURE

WORN BY INITIATED MEN AS A SYMBOL OF STATUS THESE PENDANTS ARE CALLED 'TEMA'. THE DISC IS MADE OF TRIDACNA, OR GIANT CLAM SHELL, PIERCED TO RETAIN THE HAWKSBILL TURTLE SHELL PANEL AND CUT TO RESEMBLE A STYLISED SILHOUETTE OF A FRIGATE BIRD BENEATH BONITO FISH, VISUALISED AS LOZENGERS. IN THE SOLOMAN ISLANDS THE FRIGATEBIRD IS ASSOCIATED WITH FISHING PROWESS, STRENGTH AND ENDURANCE.