Finch & C°



A FINELY TWINED SPRUCE ROOT AND MUSSEL SHELL RATTLE

A FINELY TWINED SPRUCE ROOT AND MUSSEL SHELL, NOOTKA PEOPLES CEREMONIAL RATTLE, BRITISH COLOMBIA

LATE 19TH CENTURY - EARLY 20TH CENTURY

SIZE: 20 CM LONG

8 INS LONG

LITERATURE

MADE FROM FINELY TWINED ALTERNATING BANDS AND DYED WEFTS ENCLOSING MUSSEL SHELL SHARDS, THIS RATTLE WAS PROBABLY USED AS A PROPITIATING INSTRUMENT TO ACCOMPANY DANCES PERFORMED DURING POTLACH CEREMONIES.

RATTLES WERE IMPORTANT TO CEREMONIAL ACTIVITY FOR THEIR ABILITY TO INVOKE THE SPIRIT WORLD AND INVITE THE PRESENCE OF THE ANCESTORS.