Finch & Co



THREE 'BILUM' STRING BAGS UBIRI TRIBE COLLINGWOOD BAY, WANIGERA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

THREE 'BILUM' STRING BAGS UBIRI TRIBE COLLINGWOOD BAY, WANIGERA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA
WOVEN FIBRE AND NATURAL VEGETABLE DYES
1ST HALF 20TH CENTURY
SIZES: 76CM WIDE (MAX) 38CM HIGH (MAX) – 30 INS WIDE 15 INS HIGH (APPROX.)

LITERATURE

BILUM STRING BAGS, ALTHOUGH MADE BY WOMEN, WERE OFTEN USED BY BOTH SEXES AS ADORNMENT. WORN OVER THE UPPER ARM THEY WERE USED TO CARRY BETEL CHEWING EQUIPMENT, HUNTING CHARMS, GAME AND IN THE LARGER ONES THE WOMEN WOULD CARRY BABIES SLUNG ON THEIR BACKS. FULFILLING BOTH A FUNCTIONAL AND AN AESTHETIC PURPOSE 'BILUM' BAGS WERE OFTEN TRADED ACROSS MELANESIA.