

Finch & C^o



AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN MUMIFORM SACRED FALCON 'SOKAR'

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WOOD AND GESSO PAINTED WITH PIGMENT

LATE PERIOD (525-332 B.C) – DYNASTIES 27-31

SIZE: 16.5CM HIGH, 19CM DEEP, 7CM WIDE – 6½ INS HIGH, 7½ INS DEEP, 2¾ INS WIDE

LITERATURE

THE FALCON WAS SACRED TO THE KINGS OF ANCIENT EGYPT AND WAS A SYMBOL OF SOKAR THE COUNTERPART OF OSIRIS, THE GOD OF THE DEAD. LIVING FALCONS OR HAWKS WERE REGARDED AS THE PHYSICAL MANIFESTATION OR 'BA' OF HORUS THE HAWK HEADED GOD.

CAREFULLY CARVED WOODEN REPRESENTATIONS OF THE 'BA' FALCONS WERE POSTED AT THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE OUTER SARCOPHAGUS AND A CARVED IMAGE OF THE JACKAL ANUBIS WAS PLACED ALONG THE TOP, AND TOGETHER THEY WOULD GUARD THE EXTERIOR OF THE COFFIN.