Finch & Co



A RARE GERMAN TURNED RHINOCEROS HORN FOOTED BEAKER

A RARE GERMAN TURNED RHINOCEROS HORN FOOTED BEAKER
LATE 17TH CENTURY
SIZE: 7CM HIGH, 7.5CM DIA. – 2¾ INS HIGH, 3 INS DIA.

LITERATURE

RHINOCEROS HORN WAS REGARDED IN THE 17TH CENTURY AS AN EXOTIC NATURAL SUBSTANCE WITH POWERFUL AMULETIC PROPERTIES. THE MEMBERS OF THE PRINCELY COURTS OF RENAISSANCE EUROPE, NOTABLY RUDOLF II OF PRAGUE, HAD DRINKING VESSELS CARVED FROM RHINOCEROS HORN FOR ITS MAGICAL ABILITY TO DETECT A POISONED SUBSTANCE AND FOR ITS POWER TO HEAL THE PRINCELY MELANCHOLIA.