Finch & Co

A PAPUA NEW GUINEA, MIDDLE SEPIK RIVER IATMUL PEOPLE COCONUT LIME CONTAINER

A PAPUA NEW GUINEA, MIDDLE SEPIK RIVER IATMUL PEOPLE COCONUT LIME CONTAINER
CARVED AND PAINTED WITH RED OCHRE, WHITE PIPE CLAY AND CHARCOAL
EARLY 20TH CENTURY
SIZE: 15CM DEEP – 6 INS DEEP

LITERATURE

AT THE END OF THE 19TH CENTURY THE EARLY EXPLORERS OF THE MEANDERING SEPIK RIVER WERE FILLED WITH AWE AND ADMIRATION FOR THE REGIONS CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND BY THE BEAUTY OF THE VILLAGES ON THE BANKS. THEY WERE AMAZED BY THE QUANTITY OF MARVELLOUS OBJECTS AND THE INVENTIVENESS OF THE FORMS THAT WERE PRODUCED BY A PEOPLE LIVING IN WHAT WAS ESSENTIALLY AN UNFORGIVING SWAMP. EVERY OBJECT IN THE SEPIK VILLAGE FROM THE SMALLEST MOST EVERYDAY ARTICLE TO THE MOST GIGANTIC IMPORTANT RITUAL PIECE IS CARVED OR INCISED AND PAINTED.