Finch & Co



NEW CALEDONIAN MELANESIAN CARVED HARDWOOD 'PENIS' WAR CLUB 'BUAT'

A NEW CALEDONIAN MELANESIAN CARVED HARDWOOD 'PENIS' WAR CLUB 'BUAT'
PLAITED COIR SINNET AND LINEN FABRIC BOUND AROUND THE BASE OF THE SHAFT. NATURAL HIGHLY POLISHED PATINA
EARLY 19TH CENTURY
SIZE: 77CM LONG – 30¼ INS LONG

LITERATURE

THE FERTILE ISLANDS OF NEW CALEDONIA WITH THEIR UNIQUE INDIGENOUS FLORA AND FAUNA ARE SURROUNDED BY BARRIER REEFS AND WARM PACIFIC SEAS, BUT WERE SO NAMED BY CAPTAIN COOK UPON HIS DISCOVERY OF THE ISLANDS IN 1774 BECAUSE THEIR LANDSCAPE REMINDED HIM OF THE WEST COAST OF SCOTLAND.
DURING COOK'S SECOND PACIFIC VOYAGE ON THE RESOLUTION HE SPENT 2 WEEKS IN NEW CALEDONIA AND EXPERIENCED VERY LITTLE HOSTILITY FROM THE PEOPLE. IN FACT THE MEN BROUGHT THEIR WEAPONS TO SELL AND TRADE FOR EUROPEAN GOODS AND MANY OF THESE STILL REMAIN IN THE COOK VOYAGE COLLECTIONS.