Finch & Co



SPANISH COLONIAL CARVED COCONUT 'BUGBEAR' FLASK

A FINE SPANISH COLONIAL CARVED COCONUT 'BUGBEAR' FLASK
WITH A TURNED BONE STOPPER, EYES AND BELT HOOKS
THREE VIGNETTES CARVED TO THE SIDES, ONE A DOUBLE PORTRAIT OF A MAN AND WOMAN IN PROFILE, ONE OF A YOUNG MAN WITH A LADY AT HIS SIDE GESTURING TOWARDS THE SEA, AND ANOTHER OF A TOP HATTED MERCHANT'S RETURN TO HIS WIFE AND CHILD
18TH CENTURY
SIZE: 13.5CM HIGH, 8.5CM DIA. (APPROX) – 5¼ INS HIGH, 3¼ INS DIA. (APPROX)

LITERATURE

THE CARVING OF THIS 'BUGBEAR' COCONUT FLASK IS OF EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY AND PROBABLY DEPICTS A SAILOR OR CAPTAIN'S QUEST TO MAKE HIS FORTUNE FROM A LONG SEA VOYAGE. COCONUT FLASKS WERE MOST OFTEN CARVED BY SAILORS VISITING THE TROPICS AND EXAMPLES CAN BE FOUND ORIGINATING FROM SOUTH AMERICA, MEXICO AND THE POLYNESIAN ISLANDS.