Finch & Co



**RARE TURKISH OTTOMAN RHINOCEROS AND BLOND HORN SHERBET SPOON**

AN UNUSUAL AND RARE TURKISH OTTOMAN RHINOCEROS AND BLOND HORN SHERBET SPOON
THE STEM BANDED WITH SILVER METAL
EARLY 19TH CENTURY
SIZE: 22.5CM LONG – 8¾ INS LONG

**LITERATURE**

TURKISH OTTOMAN SHERBET SPOONS WERE MADE FROM A VARIETY OF PRECIOUS MATERIALS FOR USE BY THE SULTAN'S AND GRAND VIZIER'S OF TOPKAPI PALACE, AND BY THE LADIES OF THE HAREM, WHEN ENJOYING COLD AND REFRESHING FRUIT SHERBET.
RHINOCEROS HORN WAS REGARDED AS AN EXOTIC NATURAL SUBSTANCE WITH POWERFUL AMULETIC PROPERTIES AND WAS THOUGHT TO HAVE THE MAGICAL ABILITY TO DETECT A POISONED SUBSTANCE SO A SPOON MADE FROM RHINOCEROS HORN WAS DOUBLY VALUABLE.