Finch & Co



**SOUTH AFRICAN NORTH NGUNI WIRE DECORATED CALABASH SNUFF CONTAINERS**

TWO SOUTH AFRICAN NORTH NGUNI WIRE DECORATED CALABASH SNUFF CONTAINERS
AND A ZULU CARVED BLACK HORN SNUFF CONTAINER
COPPER AND BRASS WIRE, CALABASH, HORN AND WOOD
LATE 19TH CENTURY
SIZES: 8.5CM & 7.5CM DIA. – 3¼ INS & 3 INS DIA.
7.5CM HIGH – 3 INS HIGH

**LITERATURE**

'ZULU'S SELDOM MEET WITHOUT TAKING SNUFF' E J KRIGE; THE SOCIAL SYSTEM OF THE ZULU'S 1936. SNUFF TAKING WAS A COMMUNAL ACTIVITY AMONGST THE PEOPLES OF SOUTH AFRICA AND MEMBERS OF A FAMILY GROUP, OR FRIENDS MEETING, WOULD IMMEDIATELY TAKE A PINCH OF SNUFF BEFORE ANY DISCUSSION OR ACTIVITY COULD BEGIN. SNUFF FLASKS WERE NOT JUST REGARDED AS MERE CONTAINERS; THEY WERE SEEN AS OBJECTS OF PERSONAL ADORNMENT AND OFTEN WORN AS DECORATIVE ACCESSORIES TO ENHANCE THE COSTUME OF THE OWNER. THEY WERE THEREFORE CAREFULLY AND BEAUTIFULLY MADE.