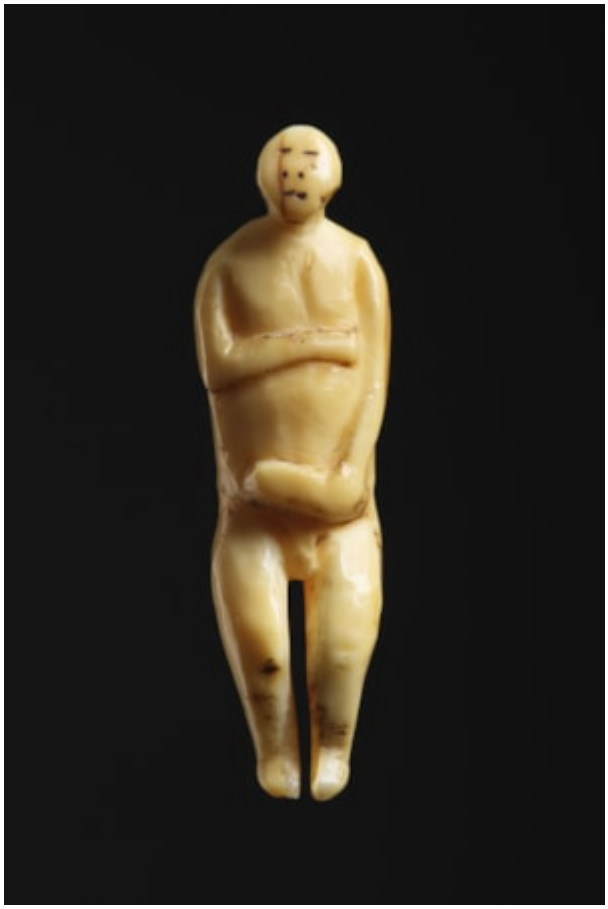
Finch & Co



MINIATURE BERING SEA INUIT SHAMAN'S FIGURAL AMULET

A FINE MINIATURE BERING SEA INUIT SHAMAN'S FIGURAL AMULET IN THE FORM OF A MAN
WALRUS IVORY
EARLY 19TH CENTURY
SIZE: 4.5CM HIGH – 1¾ INS HIGH

LITERATURE

THESE AMULETS REPRESENTED GUARDIAN SPIRITS THAT THE SHAMAN WOULD ACQUIRE DURING A VISION QUEST OR A VIGIL. THESE SPIRITS WOULD HELP AND ASSIST HIM IN HIS DUTIES TO CONTROL SUPERNATURAL BEINGS AND FORCES, THEREBY PROTECTING THE TRIBAL GROUP. ALTHOUGH ONLY CARVED IN MINIATURE FORM THESE FIGURES POSSESS A POWERFUL PRESENCE, GIVING THEM AN ALMOST MONUMENTAL SCULPTURAL QUALITY.