

Finch & C^o



INUIT BERING SEA ESKIMO WALRUS IVORY AND IRON SEMI-LUNAR KNIFE 'ULU'

A FINE INUIT BERING SEA ESKIMO WALRUS IVORY AND IRON SEMI-LUNAR KNIFE 'ULU'

EARLY 19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 12CM HIGH, 12CM WIDE – 4¾ INS HIGH, 4¾ INS WIDE

LITERATURE

ESKIMO WOMEN WERE PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROCESSING OF MEAT AND SKINS AND USED 'ULU', HAFTED SEMI-LUNAR KNIVES, FOR SKINNING AND CUTTING UP FISH AND GAME. MANIPULATED BY DEXTEROUS WRIST MOVEMENTS THESE IMPLEMENTS WERE USED BY WOMEN FOR MANY TASKS, SUCH AS SEWING, THAT THEY PERFORMED WHERE A KNIFE WAS REQUIRED.