

Finch & C^o



GROTESQUE JAPANESE LACQUERED WOOD LIFE-SIZE MODEL OF A GRIMACING HEAD

A CURIOUS GROTESQUE JAPANESE LACQUERED WOOD LIFE-SIZE MODEL OF A GRIMACING HEAD

WITH GLASS EYES AND HUMAN HAIR

2ND HALF OF 19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 34CM HIGH, 23CM WIDE – 13½ INS HIGH, 9 INS WIDE

LITERATURE

THIS HEAD HAS AN EXTRAORDINARILY LIVELY EXPRESSION AND MAY HAVE BEEN MADE AS AN EXAMPLE OF A HUMAN STEREOTYPE. MADE BY A JAPANESE CRAFTSMAN IN THE GROTESQUE POPULAR TRADITION OF MASK MAKING THIS SCULPTURE PERFECTLY ENCAPSULATES THE NEED TO EXPLORE, AND TO CAPTURE THE BIZARRE. IT IS THE PERFECT OBJECT FOR THE CABINET OF CURIOSITIES; EMPHASISING THE EXOTIC AS WELL AS UNDERSTANDING THAT FASCINATION ARISES FROM FEAR.