Finch & Co



'COCO DE MER' CURIOUSLY POSSESSING A FEMALE FORM TO ONE SIDE AND MALE ATTRIBUTES TO THE REVERSE

A LARGE 'COCO DE MER' CURIOUSLY POSSESSING A FEMALE FORM TO ONE SIDE AND MALE ATTRIBUTES TO THE REVERSE

19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 31CM HIGH – 12¼ INS HIGH

SEE FINCH & CO CATALOGUE NO. 3, ITEM NO. 35, FOR A BLONDE 'COCO DE MER'

LITERATURE

THE 'COCO DE MER' IS THE LARGEST KNOWN SEED IN THE WORLD, TAKING OVER ONE HUNDRED YEARS TO FORM AND REACH MATURITY IN THE TOPS OF TALL PALM TREES FOUND ONLY IN TWO OF THE 115 SEYCELLE ISLANDS OF THE WEST INDIAN OCEAN.

WHEN THE FIRST EUROPEAN SAILORS AND EXPLORERS FOUND THESE SEEDS IT WAS AS HUGE, DOUBLE COCONUTS FLOATING MYSTERIOUSLY IN A WEST INDIAN SEA AND SO THEY NAMED THEM 'COCO DE MER'. AN EXAMPLE IN THE ROYAL DANISH KUNSTKAMMER OF 1737 IS CALLED A 'MALDIVIAN COCO' AND DESCRIBED AS 'COMPLETE, RARE AND BEAUTIFUL'.