

Finch & C^o



GERMAN NUREMBERG RENAISSANCE CAST BRONZE WINE TAP

ARARE LARGE GERMAN NUREMBERG RENAISSANCE CAST BRONZE WINE TAP

THE SPOUT MODELLED WITH THE HEAD OF A DOLPHIN OR FISH, THE SPIGOT SCULPTED AS A YOUNG MERMAID OR NEREID, HER LONG HAIR BRAIDED A BUNCH OF GRAPES HANGING FROM THE ROUNDED HANDLE

DARK BROWN PATINA

SECOND HALF 16TH CENTURY

SIZE: 20CM HIGH, 5.5CM WIDE, 31CM DEEP – 8 INS HIGH, 2¼ INS WIDE, 12¼ INS DEEP

42CM HIGH – 16½ INS HIGH (INCLUDING STAND)

LITERATURE

DURING THE RENAISSANCE AROMATIC SPICED AND SWEETENED WINES WERE DRUNK IN QUANTITY THROUGHOUT THE DAY EVERYWHERE IN EUROPE. ONE OF THE MOST FAVOURED WAS CALLED HIPPOCRAS, BOTH RED AND WHITE WINE WHICH WAS SWEETENED WITH HONEY OR SUGAR CANDY AND SPICES SUCH AS NUTMEG AND CLOVES. IN 1576 GEORGE CASCOYNE IN HIS 'A DELICATE DIET' DISPARAGINGLY WROTE 'YEA WINE OF IT SELFE IS NOT SUFFICIENT BUT SUGAR, LIMONS AND SUNDRY SORTES OF SPICES MUST BE DROWNED THEREIN. TO MINISTER MATER UNTO OUR VAIN DELIGHTS AND TO BE QUITE OURSELVES WITH THE BAITE WHICH DRONKENNESSE DOTH THEREIN LAY FOR US.'