

Finch & C^o



SRI LANKAN IVORY PLAQUES CARVED IN THE ROUND DEPICTING A ROYAL PRINCE OF THE KANDYAN COURT AND HIS LADY
TWO FINE SRI LANKAN IVORY PLAQUES CARVED IN THE ROUND DEPICTING A ROYAL PRINCE OF THE KANDYAN COURT
AND HIS LADY

FLAMBOYANTLY DRESSED IN THEIR FINERY, SHE WITH A PET PARROT, HE HOLDING HIS SWORD

LATE 18TH – EARLY 19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 10.5CM HIGH – 4 INS HIGH (EACH)

LITERATURE

THESE TWO PLAQUES WERE PROBABLY CARVED AS PANELS FOR A MIRROR OR FAN HANDLE AS THEY ARE CARVED IN THE ROUND TO BE VIEWED FROM BOTH SIDES.

IVORY CARVING IS AN ANCIENT TRADITION IN SRI LANKA AND HAS BEEN AN INDUSTRY ON THE ISLAND FOR OVER TWO THOUSAND YEARS. ELEPHANTS WERE ONCE PLENTIFUL AND IVORY WAS A POPULAR MATERIAL THAT WAS USED FOR A WIDE VARIETY OF PURPOSES. SRI LANKA WAS FAMOUS THROUGHOUT THE ANCIENT WORLD FOR ITS LUXURY PRODUCTS OF PEARLS, PRECIOUS STONES, IVORY AND SPICES. IT IS KNOWN FROM THE GOLD COINS THAT HAVE BEEN FOUND IN SRI LANKA THAT THE ROMANS SENT THEIR SHIPS TO TRADE WITH THE ISLAND AS EARLY AS THE 2ND CENTURY BC.