Finch & Co



**SUPERBLY VEINED AND PURPLE TINTED BLUE JOHN NEOCLASSICAL TAZZA**

A SUPERBLY VEINED AND PURPLE TINTED BLUE JOHN NEOCLASSICAL TAZZA
ON A SQUARE BLACK MARBLE BASE
CIRCA 1780 – 1800
SIZE: 11.5CM HIGH, 17.5CM DEEP – 4½ INS HIGH, 7 INS DIA.
SEE: FINCH & CO CATALOGUE NO. 8, ITEM NO. 85, FOR ANOTHER BLUE JOHN TAZZA

**LITERATURE**

IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN DIFFICULT TO MINE THE SEMI-PRECIOUS BLUE JOHN WITH EACH PIECE BEING CAREFULLY EXTRACTED BY HAND. EXPLOSIVES CANNOT BE USED, AS IT WOULD BLAST OPEN THE CLEAVAGES SHATTERING IT AND RENDERING IT USELESS. INSTEAD THE LIMESTONE IS EXTRACTED FROM AROUND THE BLUE JOHN RELEASING IT FROM THE ENCLOSING ROCK AND BOULDER BED, AND THEN IT IS SLOWLY REMOVED FROM THE ANCIENT DERBYSHIRE CAVE WHERE IT LINES THE WALLS IN SMALL MASSES.