Finch & Co



SOUTH GERMAN CARVED LIMEWOOD AND GESSOED SKULL AND CROSSBONES

A SOUTH GERMAN CARVED LIMEWOOD AND GESSOED SKULL AND CROSSBONES
PROBABLY FROM A CALVARY GROUP 'MEMENTO MORI'
LATE 17TH CENTURY
SIZE: 13.5CM HIGH, 19.5CM WIDE, 16.5CM DEEP
5¼ INS HIGH, 7¾ INS WIDE, 6½ INS DEEP
SEE FINCH & CO CATALOGUE NO. 14, ITEM NO. 43, FOR AN ITALIAN WOOD MODEL OF A SKULL

LITERATURE

THE TRADITIONAL PILGRIMAGE SITE FOR CHRIST'S CRUCIFIXION IS NOW CONTAINED WITHIN THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE IN JERUSALEM AND IS KNOWN AS MOUNT CALVARY FROM THE LATIN 'CALVARIA', WHICH MEANS 'SKULL'. THE SKULL AND CROSSBONES HAVE BECOME SYMBOLIC IN SECULAR ART OF THE TRANSIENCE OF HUMAN LIFE. IN DEVOTIONAL ART, IT DENOTES THE PLACE OF THE CRUCIFIXION ALSO KNOWN BY THE HEBREW WORD OF 'GOLGOTHA' THAT TRANSLATES AS 'THE PLACE OF THE SKULL'.