Finch & Co



ENGLISH RENAISSANCE LIMESTONE FIGURE

AN ENGLISH RENAISSANCE LIMESTONE FIGURE CARVED IN THE ROUND OF A HOODED HUNCH-BACKED BEARDED CLERIC HOLDING A LARGE PROCESSIONAL CROSS

A TOMB FIGURE OR 'WEEPER'

LATE 15TH – EARLY 16TH CENTURY

SIZE: 13CM HIGH – 5¼ INS HIGH

LITERATURE

THE BURGUNDIAN TOMB OF PHILIP THE BOLD (1384 – 1410) IS FAMED ABOVE ALL FOR THE ACUTE REALISM OF THE SET OF CARVED ALABASTER FIGURES RANGED BENEATH THE MARBLE EFFIGY OF THE DECEASED LIKE A LONG PROCESSION OF MOURNERS DRESSED IN SWAYING HOODED CASSOCKS AND ACCOMPANYING HIM TO HIS FINAL RESTING PLACE. THE FORM AND DECORATION OF THIS NOBLEMAN'S MEMORIAL WAS COPIED QUITE CLOSELY IN NORTHERN EUROPE AND OVER THE NEXT CENTURY ALL CHURCH TOMB MONUMENTS VARIOUSLY TOOK ON THIS STYLE WITH 'WEEPERS' OR 'PLEURANTS' AS THEY WERE CALLED IN FRANCE. THE CARVED CLERICS CARRIED EMBLEMS OF RELIGIOUS DEVOTION WHILST MOURNING AND PRAYING FOR THE SOUL OF THE DEPARTED.