

# *Finch & C<sup>o</sup>*



## **AMERICAN PLAINS LAKOTA SIOUX ONE HEADED DRUM**

A NATIVE AMERICAN PLAINS LAKOTA SIOUX ONE HEADED DRUM DECORATED WITH A FADED SUNBURST DESIGN IN RED  
BLACK YELLOW AND BLUE

THE THIN BUFFALO RAWHIDE STRETCHED AND PINNED WITH IRON TACKS TO A HOOPED WOOD FRAME

CIRCA 1870 – 1890

SIZE: APPROX: 30CM DIA. 8CM DEEP – 11¾ INS DIA, 3¼ INS DEEP

CF: A SIMILAR DRUM IN THE COLLECTION OF D.T. VERNON AT COLTER BAY VISITOR CENTRE, WYOMING, PUBLISHED IN  
THE SPIRIT OF NATIVE AMERICA BY AL. WATERS, NO 959. 1989

## **LITERATURE**

RICHLY DIVERSE, AMERICAN INDIAN MUSIC WAS UNIQUE IN ITS ALMOST EXCLUSIVE EMPHASIS ON SINGING ACCOMPANIED  
SIMULTANEOUSLY BY THE PLAYING OF A DRUM. PLAINS INDIAN DRUMS WERE MADE WITH SINGLE OR DOUBLE HEADS  
STRETCHED OVER HOOPS OR CYLINDERS AND BEATEN WITH HANDS, WANDS OR STICKS, USUALLY TO EMPHASISE THE  
RHYTHM OF A PARTICULAR CEREMONY AND TO ACCOMPANY THE CHARACTERISTIC PLAINS STYLE OF A TENSE, NASAL  
QUALITY OF SONG.

MUSIC WAS INTEGRAL TO NATIVE AMERICAN LIFE ON THE PLAINS WHERE IT WAS PERFORMED EVERYDAY, IN PUBLIC OR  
PRIVATE CONTEXTS, TO PRESERVE AND PERPETUATE TRADITIONAL CULTURE, TO EXPRESS AND AFFIRM TRIBAL  
IDENTITIES AND TO HONOUR FAMILIES AND THE ANCESTORS.

EARLY EUROPEAN EXPLORERS AND MISSIONARIES WERE FASCINATED BY NATIVE AMERICAN MUSIC DESCRIBING IT IN  
THEIR JOURNALS AS HAVING A CONNECTION TO THE SPIRITUAL REALM. INDEED, SACRED INDIAN NARRATIVES TEACH  
THAT MUSIC IS NOT A HUMAN INVENTION, BUT WAS FIRST GIVEN TO THE PEOPLE BY SPIRIT BEINGS IN ORDER TO  
FACILITATE INTERACTION BETWEEN THEM.