Finch & Co

FRENCH LIMESTONE GAPING GARGOYLE

A MEDIEVAL FRENCH LIMESTONE GAPING GARGOYLE CARVED IN THE FORM OF A GROTESQUE FANTASTICAL FROG
15TH CENTURY
SIZE: 24CM HIGH, 16.5CM WIDE, 19CM DEEP – 9½ INS HIGH, 6½ INS WIDE, 7½ INS DEEP

LITERATURE

THE WORD GARGOYLE COMES FROM THE LATIN 'QURQULIO'; MEANING 'THROAT' AND GARGOYLES WERE INTENDED FOR USE ON AN ECCLESIASTICAL BUILDING AS A WATER-SPOUT. HOWEVER, THE VARIATIONS PRODUCED BY THE MEDIEVAL STONEMASON ON THIS FUNCTIONAL THEME ARE ENDLESSLY FASCINATING. PEERING DOWN AT US FROM THE TOPS OF CHURCH WALLS FOR OVER EIGHT CENTURIES, THESE MONSTROUS BEINGS SPEW WATER FROM THEIR THROATS AND DETER THE DEVIL FROM ENTERING THE SANCTUARY WITHIN.