Finch & Co



ALEUT CARVED SPERM WHALE TOOTH HUNTING HAT CHARM

A UNALASKAN ALEUT CARVED SPERM WHALE TOOTH HUNTING HAT CHARM IN THE FORM OF A GAME BIRD
EARLY 19TH CENTURY
SIZE: 2.5CM HIGH - 1 INS HIGH

LITERATURE

AMULETS CARVED OF IVORY WERE MADE BY BOTH SHAMANS AND INDIVIDUAL HUNTERS FOR SUPERNATURAL AID AND PROTECTION. THEY WERE PASSED DOWN THROUGH FAMILIES AS TREASURED HEIRLOOMS AND WERE USED, BOTH OLD AND NEWLY CARVED, TO INFLUENCE A TUTELARY OR HELPING SPIRIT. THESE SMALL SCULPTURES WERE SO IMPORTANT TO THE BELIEFS OF THE COMMUNITY THAT NOTHING COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT THEIR HELP.