Finch & Co



FRENCH BAROQUE CARVED IVORY OF CHRIST CRUCIFIED 'CHRISTO VIVO'

A FINE AND EXCEPTIONALLY LARGE FRENCH BAROQUE CARVED IVORY OF CHRIST CRUCIFIED 'CHRISTO VIVO'
OLD SMOOTH SILKY CREAMY PATINA WITH AGED IVORY SURFACE
SECOND HALF 17TH CENTURY
SIZE: 54CM HIGH, 34CM WIDE - 21¼ INS HIGH, 13½ INS WIDE

LITERATURE

CREATED BY THE ARTIST FOR USE AS A DEVOTIONAL OBJECT, THIS CRUCIFIX WAS MEANT TO BE VIEWED FROM BELOW WITHIN THE CONFINES OF A CHAPEL. THE BAROQUE SCULPTURE SHOWS CHRIST CRUCIFIED CALLING OUT TO GOD. HIS OPEN MOUTH AND LOWERED EYELIDS SUGGESTING THE FINAL MOMENT OF SUPREME EXHAUSTION IS NEAR AT HAND. PIERRE SIMON JAILLOT WAS BASED IN PARIS FROM 1657 ONWARDS WHERE HE ENROLLED AS A STUDENT AT THE ACADÉMIE DE ST LUC. WHEN HE HAD BECOME AN ESTABLISHED ARTIST HE WAS PARTICULARLY PRAISED FOR HIS IVORY CRUCIFIXES, BUT ALSO BECAME WELL KNOWN FOR HIS DIFFICULT AND TEMPERAMENTAL PERSONALITY.