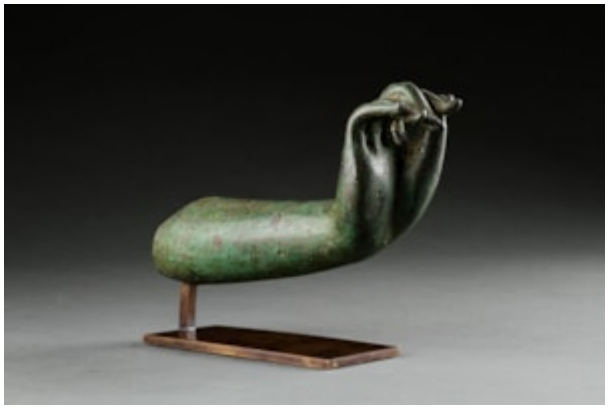
Finch & Co



BRONZE ARM AND HAND FROM A STANDING BUDDHA

A BRONZE ARM AND HAND FROM A STANDING BUDDHA SAKYAMUNI FROM THAILAND THE HAND WITH DELICATELY RENDERED FINGERS RAISED IN THE TEACHING GESTURE

FINE SMOOTH OLD GREENISH BROWN PATINA

AYUTTHAYA KINGDOM 17TH CENTURY

SIZE: 10CM HIGH, 13.5CM LONG, 4.5CM WIDE - 4 INS HIGH, 5¼ INS LONG, 1¾ INS WIDE / 11CM HIGH - 4¼ INS HIGH (ON BASE)

LITERATURE

IN CONTRAST WITH OTHER GREAT RELIGIOUS TEACHERS OF THE WORLD SUCH AS CONFUCIUS, JESUS OR MOHAMMED, THE BUDDHA WAS KNOWN AS SAKYAMUNI 'THE SILENT SAGE OF THE SAKYA CLAN'. THIS CLAN INHABITED A REGION OF NEPAL WHERE THE BUDDHA WAS BORN. THE BUDDHA WAS SIMPLY KNOWN AS THE 'WISE' OR 'ENLIGHTENED ONE' AND ACTED AS A PERMANENT SPIRITUAL SIGNPOST FOR THE PEOPLE. THE BUDDHA IS SAID TO HAVE FORESEEN THAT HIS TEACHINGS OVER THE CENTURIES WOULD BECOME AN ORGANISED RELIGION AND EVOLVE A DISTINCT MYTHOLOGY, BUT HE ALSO TAUGHT THAT THE MENDICANT MONKS WOULD ALWAYS DAILY REMIND THE PEOPLE OF THE TRUE PATH. TODAY, IT IS STILL THE CUSTOM IN THAILAND FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO ADOPT HOLY ORDERS FOR A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME TO LEARN THE TEACHINGS OF THE HISTORICAL BUDDHA.