Finch & Co



ITALIAN BAROQUE IVORY OF CHRIST CRUCIFIED ATTENDED BY THE VIRGIN MARY AND SAINT JOHN BY GIOVANNI ANTONIO GUALTERIO

A FINE ITALIAN BAROQUE IVORY OF CHRIST CRUCIFIED ATTENDED BY THE VIRGIN MARY AND SAINT JOHN BY GIOVANNI ANTONIO GUALTERIO (ACTIVE ROME 1582 - 1620)

THE ARTIST'S MONOGRAM AND THE DATE '1613' TO REVERSE OF PERIZOMA

THE WHOLE GROUP STANDING ON A BASE WITH THREE ENCLOSED RELIQUARIES CONTAINING BONES AND RELICS ONE WITH LABEL INSCRIBED 'CHAIR DE S.T F. DE SALES'

TRACES OF RED POLYCHROME

EARLY 17TH CENTURY

SIZE: 31CM HIGH, 29.5CM WIDE - 12¼ INS HIGH, 11¾ INS WIDE / 62CM HIGH, 37CM WIDE - 24½ INS HIGH, 14½ WIDE (WITH BASE)

LITERATURE

GUALTERIO'S MUSCULAR FORM OF HIS CORPUS CHRISTI CARVINGS HAVE A SIMILARITY TO THE LATE DRAWINGS OF MICHELANGELO (1475 - 1564). HE MADE A SPECIALITY OF IVORY CRUCIFIXES, AND THE CARVING OF CHRIST'S LOINCLOTH IS TYPICAL OF HIS WORK. GUALTERIO IS KNOWN TO HAVE CARRIED OUT COMMISSIONS FOR CARDINAL, LATER GRAND DUKE, FERDINAND DE 'MEDICI (1548 - 1608) WHO ORDERED A CRUCIFIX FROM HIM AND THEN IMMEDIATELY SENT IT AS A DIPLOMATIC GIFT TO SPAIN. TWO SURVIVING CRUCIFIXES BOTH HAVE SPANISH PROVENANCES, AND PERHAPS BECAUSE HE PARTIALLY POLYCHROMED HIS IVORIES, GUALTERIO'S WORK WAS FAVOURED AND IN DEMAND IN SPAIN.