Finch & Co



NORTHERN THAILAND LĀN NĀ BRONZE OF THE STANDING BUDDHA SHAKYAMUNI

A NORTHERN THAILAND LĀN NĀ BRONZE OF THE STANDING BUDDHA SHAKYAMUNI HIS FACE WITH SERENE CONTEMPLATIVE EXPRESSION

SIZE: 35CM HIGH - 13¾ INS HIGH

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LITERATURE

IN 1281 KING MENGRAI CAPTURED THE NORTHERN MON CITY OF LAMPHUN AND ESTABLISHED THE KINGDOM OF LĀN NĀ WHICH LASTED UNTIL THE 16TH CENTURY WHEN THE BURMESE INVADED. ISOLATED INLAND, THIS NORTHERN KINGDOM DEVELOPED INDEPENDENTLY FROM THE CENTRAL THAI PRINCIPALITIES OF SUKHOTHAI AND AYUTTHAYA, ALTHOUGH BOTH WERE ARTISTICALLY INFLUENTIAL AS WERE BURMA AND SRI LANKA.

THROUGHOUT THE HISTORY OF BUDDHISM IMAGES OF THE BUDDHA FOLLOW A SPECIFIC ICONOGRAPHY. HE WEARS MONK'S ROBES, HIS EARLOBES ARE DISTENDED TO INDICATE THAT HE ONCE WAS RICH AND WORE JEWELS, AND HE HAS AN USHNISHA, A CRANIAL PROTUBERANCE TO THE TOP OF HIS HEAD, TO SIGNIFY HIS ADVANCED INTELLIGENCE. THIS

BRONZE IMAGE OF THE BUDDHA EXPRESSES HIS ACCESSIBILITY TO THE DEVOTEE IN ITS SIMPLICITY OF FORM AND STYLE.

PROVENANCE

EX NETHERLANDS PRIVATE COLLECTION