Finch & Co



TIBETAN GILT COPPER REPOUSSÉ MASK HEAD OF A FEROCIOUS SNOW LION

A TIBETAN GILT COPPER REPOUSSÉ MASK HEAD OF A FEROCIOUS SNOW LION THE MANE FLOWING DOWN IN SEPARATE STRANDS EACH SIDE OF THE FACE THE OPEN MOUTH REVEALING A RED POLYCHROMED INTERIOR WITH PROTRUDING TONGUE

PERHAPS REPRESENTATIVE OF A LION-HEADED DAKINIS 'SIMAVAKTRA' A TRAVELLER OF SPACE AND ONE OF THE SYMBOLS OF ESOTERIC KNOWLEDGE

18TH CENTURY

SIZE: 29CM HIGH, 22CM WIDE, 15CM DEEP - 11¼ INS HIGH, 8¾ INS WIDE, 6 INS DEEP

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LITERATURE

THE TIBETAN PEOPLE PERCEIVE THEIR COUNTRY AS A SACRED COSMOS, A HOLY LANDSCAPE GUARDED BY MIGHTY GODS AND FILLED WITH CENTRES OF RITUAL AND MYSTICAL POWER. WITHIN THIS LANDSCAPE, EVERY NATURAL FEATURE, EVERY BUILDING AND EVERY DEED IS CHARGED WITH RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE. MOUNTAINS ARE THE SEATS OF AWE-INSPIRING DEITIES, THEIR CAVES PLACES FOR MEDITATION, AND THEIR WINDING TRAILS EMBLEMATIC OF THE PATH TO ENLIGHTENMENT. THE SNOW LION DWELLS HIGH IN THESE MOUNTAINS, THE SYMBOLIC GUARDIAN OF ANCIENT SAGES AND SAINTS WHOSE HEROIC ACTS INFUSED THE UNIVERSE WITH POTENT SPIRITUAL MEANING.

PROVENANCE

EX PRIVATE COLLECTION OF THE LATE RICHARD NATHANSON