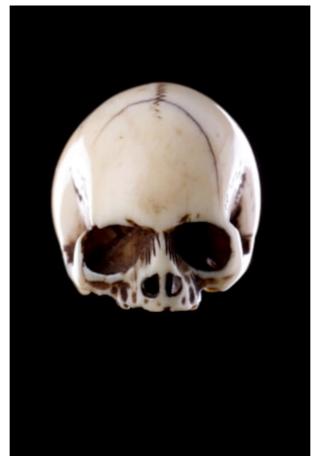
## Finch & C°



GERMAN MEMENTO MORI CARVED IVORY PATERNOSTER ROSARY BEAD IN THE FORM OF A SKULL A GERMAN MEMENTO MORI CARVED IVORY PATERNOSTER ROSARY BEAD IN THE FORM OF A SKULL

OLD SMOOTH SILKY PATINA

17TH CENTURY

SIZE: 3CM HIGH, 3CM WIDE, 3.5CM DEEP - 11/4 INS HIGH, 11/4 INS WIDE, 11/2 INS DEEP

A GERMAN MEMENTO MORI CARVED IVORY PATERNOSTER ROSARY BEAD IN THE FORM OF A SKULL

OLD SMOOTH SILKY PATINA

17TH CENTURY

SIZE: 3CM HIGH, 3CM WIDE, 3.5CM DEEP -  $1^{1}\!$  INS HIGH,  $1^{1}\!$  INS DEEP

## LITERATURE

MADE FOR DEVOTIONAL USE THE FUNCTION OF THESE BEADS WAS TO MARK THE BEGINNING AND END OF A PRAYER CYCLE. REMINDING THE BELIEVER OF HIS MORTALITY, THE PATERNOSTER OR TERMINAL BEAD ON A ROSARY REPRESENTS AN ACT OF INNER CONTEMPLATION. IT IS ALSO EVIDENCE OF THE ANONYMITY OF DEATH AND PERHAPS OF TRUTHS BEYOND THE TRANSIENT DETAILS OF LIFE.

## PROVENANCE

EX PRIVATE COLLECTION OF THE BERKELEY FAMILY, SPETCHLEY PARK WORCESTERSHIRE