

Finch & C^o



A LARGE HEART SHAPED ROCK CRYSTAL SILVER MOUNTED RELIQUARY
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SILVER, ROCK-CRYSTAL, POLYCHROME

SPAIN

17TH CENTURY

SIZE: 9CM HIGH, 7.5CM WIDE, 1.5CM DEEP - 3½ INS HIGH, 3 INS WIDE, ⅝ INS DEEP

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LITERATURE

HOUSED BEHIND A LARGE 'CHUNK' OF ROCK CRYSTAL, THE MADONNA IS SHOWN PRAYING WITH HER HANDS FIRMLY CLASPED, A ROSARY BEAD NECKLACE FALLING DOWN HER CHEST AND A 'STARRY' SILVER 'HALO' FRAMING HER WHISTFUL FACE WITH A DOWNWARD GAZE. TO THE REVERSE OF THE SILVER MOUNT WE FIND ENGRAVED THE INITIALS 'I H S' ABOVE A 'BLEEDING HEART' WITH THREE ARROWS.

MOST CERTAINLY FROM A PRIVATE DEVOTIONAL CHAPEL, OR A TRAVELING 'AMULET' TO BE HUNG WHEREVER THE DEVOUT OWNER CAME TO REST.