Finch & Co

A CAST BRONZE HAND OF THE BUDDHA SHAKYAMUNI

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SHOWN IN THE GESTURE OF TOUCHING THE EARTH

A DARK CORRODED BRONZE SURFACE WITH PATCHES OF RED AND GREEN PATINATION

THAILAND / SOUTH EAST ASIAN

13TH -14TH CENTURY

SIZE: 22.5CM LONG, 10.5CM WIDE, 7.5CM HIGH – 8¾ INS LONG, 4¼ INS WIDE, 3 INS HIGH

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LITERATURE

AS THE BUDDHA WAS MEDITATING ALONE BENEATH THE BODHI TREE HE CALLED ON THE EARTH TO WITNESS HIS VICTORY BY SHEER WILLPOWER OVER MARA THE GOD OF DESIRE AND DEATH. THIS ACT IS SYMBOLISED IN SCULPTURES BY THE EXCLUSIVELY BUDDHIST GESTURE OF TOUCHING THE EARTH. THIS POSTURE EVENTUALLY BECAME THE STANDARD ICONIC TYPE FOR THE SEATED FIGURE OF THE BUDDHA SHAKYAMUNI THROUGHOUT THE BUDDHIST WORLD.

PROVENANCE

EX FINCH AND CO, ITEM 132, CATALOGUE 16, 2010

EX EUROPEAN PRIVATE COLLECTION