

Finch & C^o



A PRESTIGE 'CARYATID' STOOL

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DARK PATINA REFLECTIVE OF ITS USE AND AGE

WOOD, METAL

TSCHOKWE / ZOMBO, CONGO

LATE 19TH CENTURY - EARLY 20TH CENTURY

SIZE: 42CM HIGH - 16½ INS HIGH

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LITERATURE

IN CONGOLESE SOCIETIES, INCLUDING THE TSCHOKWE OR ZOMBO, THE 'CARYATID' SEAT (OR STOOL) IS AN ATTRIBUTE OF PRESTIGE, BELONGING TO A HIGH RANKING OFFICIAL, CHIEF OR SORCERER. THE MALE FIGURE SEATED, SUPPORTING THE SEAT WITH HIS HEAD AND HANDS, THE LEGS AND BULGING BELLY, ADORNED WITH 'UPHOLSTERY' NAILS, VALUED FOR THEIR RARITY IN THE CONGO. A FEW AREAS SHOW INDIGENOUS REPAIRS, TESTIFYING TO THE IMPORTANT RITUAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS OBJECT, BEING REPAIRED RATHER THAN DISCARDED.

PROVENANCE

COLLECTED IN-SITU BEFORE 1920

GALERIE BERNARD DULON, PARIS, FRANCE

EX LUCAS RATTON, PARIS, FRANCE

EX PRIVATE ENGLISH COLLECTION