Finch & C°



AN EXCEPTIONAL AND RARE RENAISSANCE SILVER GILT MOUNTED RHINOCEROS HORN CUP

AN EXCEPTIONAL AND RARE RENAISSANCE SILVER GILT MOUNTED RHINOCEROS HORN CUP WITH FOLIATE 'ACANTHUS' LEAF MOUNT, ABOVE A TURNED STEMAND REPOUSSÉ OVAL BASE WITH DISPLAYING MILITARY 'TROPHY EMBLEMS, THE CUP SURMOUNTED WITH A SILVER GILT ROMAN SOLDIER IN ARMOUR HOLDING A SHIELD AND SPEAR TO HIS SIDES

RHINOCEROS HORN, SILVER, GILT

GERMAN / CHINA

LATE 16TH CENTURY TO EARLY 17TH CENTURY / 1580 - 1620

CF: OLD COLLECTORS NUMBER: SIL/2046A/A

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LITERATURE

NOTE: THE CHINESE RHINOCEROS HORN LIBATION CUP WAS AN EARLY EXOTIC AND LUXURIOUS IMPORT TO THE WEST / EUROPE, AND REGARDED TO BE BOTH HIGHLY VALUABLE AND PROTECTIVE TO THE OWNER, HENCE FINDING ITS WAY INTO A ROYAL COURT OF EUROPE WHERE THEIR SILVER AND GOLDSMITHS EMBELLISHED THE CUP, IN THIS CASE WITH A FINELY DETAILED SILVER-GILT SUPPORT, FOR INCLUSION INTO THE COURT'S 'KUNSTKAMMER' TO BE MARVELLED AND APPRECIATED FOR ITS ARTISTIC IMPORTANCE, BUT ON OCCASION ALSO TO BE DRUNK FROM, AS THE RHINOCEROS HORN WOULD RENDER ANY 'POISONOUS' LIQUID SAFE FOR THE PRINCELY PATRON TO CONSUME!

PROVENANCE

EXPRIVATE COLLECTION