

Finch & C^o



A RARE PAIR OF 'SNOW GOGGLES'

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ETCHED 'EYEBROWS' AND TWO HOLES PIERCED TO EACH SIDE FOR FIXING

SUPERB GOLDEN COLOUR WITH WORN PATINA

WALRUS IVORY

PUNUK CULTURE

CIRCA 8TH CENTURY AD

SIZE: 13CM WIDE - 5¼ INS WIDE

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PROVENANCE:

EUROPEAN PRIVATE COLLECTION

EX PATRICK MESTDAGH GALLERY, BRUSSELS

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LITERATURE

THE ESKIMO ARE THE MOST DISPERSED INDIGENOUS GROUP GLOBALLY, SPANNING APPROXIMATELY 4,000 MILES PRIMARILY ALONG THE NORTHERN PERIPHERIES OF THE AMERICAN AND RUSSIAN CONTINENTS. THEIR 3,000-YEAR-OLD CULTURE IS DISTINCT AND NOT SHARED WITH ANY OTHER SUB-POLAR PEOPLES, SUCH AS THE LAPPS. THEIR NOMADIC LIFESTYLE INSTILLED IN THEM AN EXTRAORDINARY RESILIENCE IN PRESERVING THEIR CULTURE OVER VAST DISTANCES.

SNOW BLINDNESS IS A DEBILITATING AND EXCRUCIATING CONDITION THAT POSES AN OCCUPATIONAL HAZARD FOR ARCTIC HUNTERS. THE RETINA OF THE EYE IS DAMAGED BY EXCESSIVE ULTRAVIOLET RADIATION REFLECTED FROM SNOW-COVERED LANDSCAPES. THE USE OF GOGGLES EFFECTIVELY REDUCES THE AMOUNT OF LIGHT ENTERING THE EYE.

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