Finch & Co



NORTHWEST INDIA {NOW PAKISTAN} GANDHARA CARVED GREY SCHIST FIGURE OF THE BUDDHA SEATED IN MEDITATION

CIRCA 200 - 300 BC

ANCIENT NORTHWEST INDIA {NOW PAKISTAN} GANDHARA CARVED GREY SCHIST FIGURE OF THE BUDDHA

AN ANCIENT NORTHWEST INDIA {NOW PAKISTAN} GANDHARA CARVED GREY SCHIST FIGURE OF THE BUDDHA SEATED IN MEDITATION 'DHYANA MUDRA' WEARING VOLUMINOUS ROBES ON A CUSHIONED THRONE A FRIEZE BELOW DEPICTING THE FOUR FORMS OF THE BUDDHA FLANKED ON EACH SIDE BY A FEMALE DEVOTEE

2ND - 3RD CENTURY AD

SIZE: 39.5CM HIGH - 15½ INS HIGH

LITERATURE

ONCE ANTHROPOMORPHIC REPRESENTATIONS OF THE BUDDHA BECAME ACCEPTABLE AND REPLACED THE ANICONIC SYMBOLS PREVIOUSLY USED TO INDICATE HIS PERSONAL PRESENCE, THEY BECAME ONE OF THE PRIMARY CULT IMAGES OF BUDDHISM, AND ONE OF THE MOST DISTINCTIVE PRODUCTS OF THE ART OF THE GANDHARA REGION.

THE MASTERLY TREATMENT OF THE DRAPERY ON THIS FIGURE SEATED IN A LOTUS POSITION ON HIS THRONE SHOWS A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THE SPIRIT AND TECHNIQUES OF THE GRECO-ROMAN ARTISTIC TRADITION. THE FOLDS FOLLOW THE CONTOURS OF THE BODY ACCENTUATING THE LINES OF THE LIMBS IN A NATURAL AND UNCONSTRAINED WAY. ASYMMETRICALLY ARRANGED IN ALTERNATING WIDE AND NARROW RIDGES ACROSS THE CHEST, THE RESULTING CURVES OF LIGHT AND SHADOW ILLUSTRATE BOTH THE WEIGHT AND FLEXIBILITY OF THE FINE MATERIAL.

PROVENANCE

EX PRIVATE ENGLISH COLLECTION

EX SIMON RAY INDIAN AND ISLAMIC ART EXHIBITION APRIL 2005 NO 3

CF: A SIMILAR EXAMPLE IN THE PESHAWAR MUSEUM NO 1928. FOUND IN THE TAKHT-I-BAHAI (LYONS AND INGHOLT 1957 PL 234)