Finch & Co



AN EXTREMELY FINE CARVED POLYCHROMED OVAL 'COMESSO' CAMEO OF CHRIST

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CONTAINED IN AN OVAL VELVET LINED LEATHER BOX

SIGNED: LAMENT

SHELL, MOTHER-OF-PEARL, LEATHER, VELVET

FRANCE

CIRCA 1850

SIZE: 4.5CM HIGH, 3.7CM WIDE - 1¾ INS HIGH, 1½ INS WIDE

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LITERATURE

CHRIST IS SHOWN WITH A CONTEMPLATIVE DOWNWARD GAZE, WEARING A CROWN OF THORNS. HIS LEFT HAND HOLDS A STAFF, CLOSE TO HIS CHEST. THE WORD 'COMESSO', ALSO REFERRED TO AS FLORENTINE 'MOSAIC', IS THE PRACTICE OF PIECING TOGETHER CUT SECTIONS OF SEMI–PRECIOUS STONES, GEMS AND, IN THIS CASE, SHELL TO FORM INTRICATE AND METICULOUSLY CRAFTED WORKS OF ART.

PROVENANCE

EX PRIVATE COLLECTION

SEE:

FOR ANOTHER CAMEO SIGNED BY LAMENT, CONTAINED IN A VICTORIAN GOLD FRAME, SEE: THE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM COLLECTION, ACCESSION NUMBER M.24-1984