

# *Finch & C<sup>o</sup>*



## **A WEST AFRICAN , NIGERIAN IBIBIO MAIDEN SPIRIT HELMET MASK WITH SUPERSTRUCTURE**

A WEST AFRICAN , NIGERIAN IBIBIO MAIDEN SPIRIT HELMET MASK WITH SUPERSTRUCTURE . CARVED WOOD AND  
PIGMENTS

LATE 19 TH CENTURY – EARLY 20 TH CENTURY

SIZE : 51 CM HIGH , 23 CM WIDE – 20 INS HIGH , 9 INS WIDE

## **LITERATURE**

REPRESENTING A BEAUTIFUL SPIRIT WHO HAS ATTAINED ETERNAL BLISS , THIS THREE QUARTER LENGTH HELMET MASK WAS USED BY THE MMWO SOCIETY OF THE IBIBIO . THE CRESTED TOP PROBABLY REPRESENTS AN ELABORATE HAIRDO . IT HAS A REFINED FACIAL EXPRESSION THAT CHARACTERISES THE FEMININITY OF THE IDEALISED MAIDEN SPIRIT .