

THE SINGERS

COCONUT

IT WAS ONLY THIS BIG. IT HAD AN INDICATION OF A FACE AND IT WAS MAGNIFICENT. I SAT ON THE FLOOR AND STARED AT THAT THING FOR MAYBE TWO HOURS. I JUST WANTED IT SO MUCH. THEY HAD PRICED IT AT \$7,000. WE WERE AT A MOMENT IN OUR LIVES WHEN WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY MONEY, AND SAM WAS LOOKING AT IT, IT WAS EARLY, FOR HIM ESPECIALLY, VERY EARLY IN TERMS OF STARING AT OBJECTS AND HE LOOKED AT IT AND SAID:

"IT'S A COCONUT"



A KAVA CONTAINER AND DRINKING VESSEL. FIJI, POLYNESIA, COCONUT. 18TH/19TH, 10 CM DIAMETER.

SHARON AND SAM SINGER ARE CALIFORNIAN TRIBAL-ART COLLECTORS, FOCUSING ON THE PACIFIC, HIMALAYAS AND INDONESIA.

THEY ARE THE 2019 BOURGOGNE TRIBAL SHOW HONORARY PRESIDENTS.

THEIR WORDS WERE NOTED DOWN BY CHRISTINA HELMICH IN BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA, IN APRIL 2019.

THE CHILDREN

IT'S IMPORTANT TO CONSTANTLY BE LOOKING, READING, VIEWING, GOING TO FAIRS, MUSEUMS, VISITING OTHER COLLECTORS, DEALERS, AUCTION HOUSES, TO LEARN AND UNDERSTAND. IT'S TOTALLY WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT. THE FIRST PURCHASE OF ART PREMIERS CAPTIVATES AND INTRIGUES. YOU FALL IN LOVE, THEN YOU READ MORE, YOU STUDY, AND YOU KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR SPECIAL ARTWORKS, AND YOU BUILD A SMALL COLLECTION. AND IT BECOMES A PASSION. EVEN THOUGH YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO OWN EVERYTHING YOU DESIRE, YOU'D DO ANYTHING TO UNDERSTAND THE ARTWORKS, TO POSSESS MORE KNOWLEDGE AND THE PIECE ITSELF. OTHER THAN TO SELL THE CHILDREN OR ANOTHER PIECE.



MASSIM CONUS SHELL, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, PREHISTORY, 6 INCHES. EX-JOHN & MARCIA FRIEDE © S&S SINGER

A GOOD PIECE OF ADVICE

IT'S ALWAYS FUN TO GO TO AN OPENING OR TO BE THE FIRST TO SEE ARTWORKS. BUT I THINK THE FUN AND THE JOY IS NOT JUST IN THE INITIAL HUNT WHEN EVERYTHING IS AVAILABLE AND A CHOICE MUST BE MADE BEFORE IT'S SNATCHED OFF THE GALLERY SHELVES, BUT REALLY THE JOY IN COLLECTING ART IS THE ABILITY TO SIT AND STARE AT IT AND TALK ABOUT THE PIECES.

TO TALK ABOUT, THINK ABOUT, AND REALLY LOOK AT A PIECE IS TO GAIN KNOWLEDGE AS WELL AS BEING A PLEASURE. A GREAT PIECE OF ART, WHETHER SMALL OR LARGE, A SIMPLE ETHNOGRAPHIC PIECE OR A MASTERPIECE, IF YOU SIT AND LOOK AT IT, IT WILL SPEAK TO YOU AND BECOME MORE AND MORE ITSELF. YOU CAN LIVE WITH THAT FOR A LIFETIME, BECAUSE YOU KNOW IT'S GOING TO CHANGE AND BECOME A BIGGER PART OF YOUR LIFE.

SHARON'S VIEWPOINT IS INFORMED BY HER VISCERAL AND IMMEDIATE REACTION, HER FEELINGS ABOUT OBJECTS WE ALREADY LIVE WITH, AS WELL AS THE RELATIONSHIPS THAT WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE WITH TRIBAL ART DEALERS. HER ABILITY TO FALL IN LOVE WITH SOMETHING AT FIRST SIGHT IS VITAL. IT CAN LEAD US TO SOMETHING THAT OTHER PEOPLE MIGHT MISS. HER QUICKNESS IS VERY IMPORTANT IN GETTING TO THE HEART OF THINGS THAT ARE REALLY WONDERFUL SCULPTURAL POWERFUL PIECES.

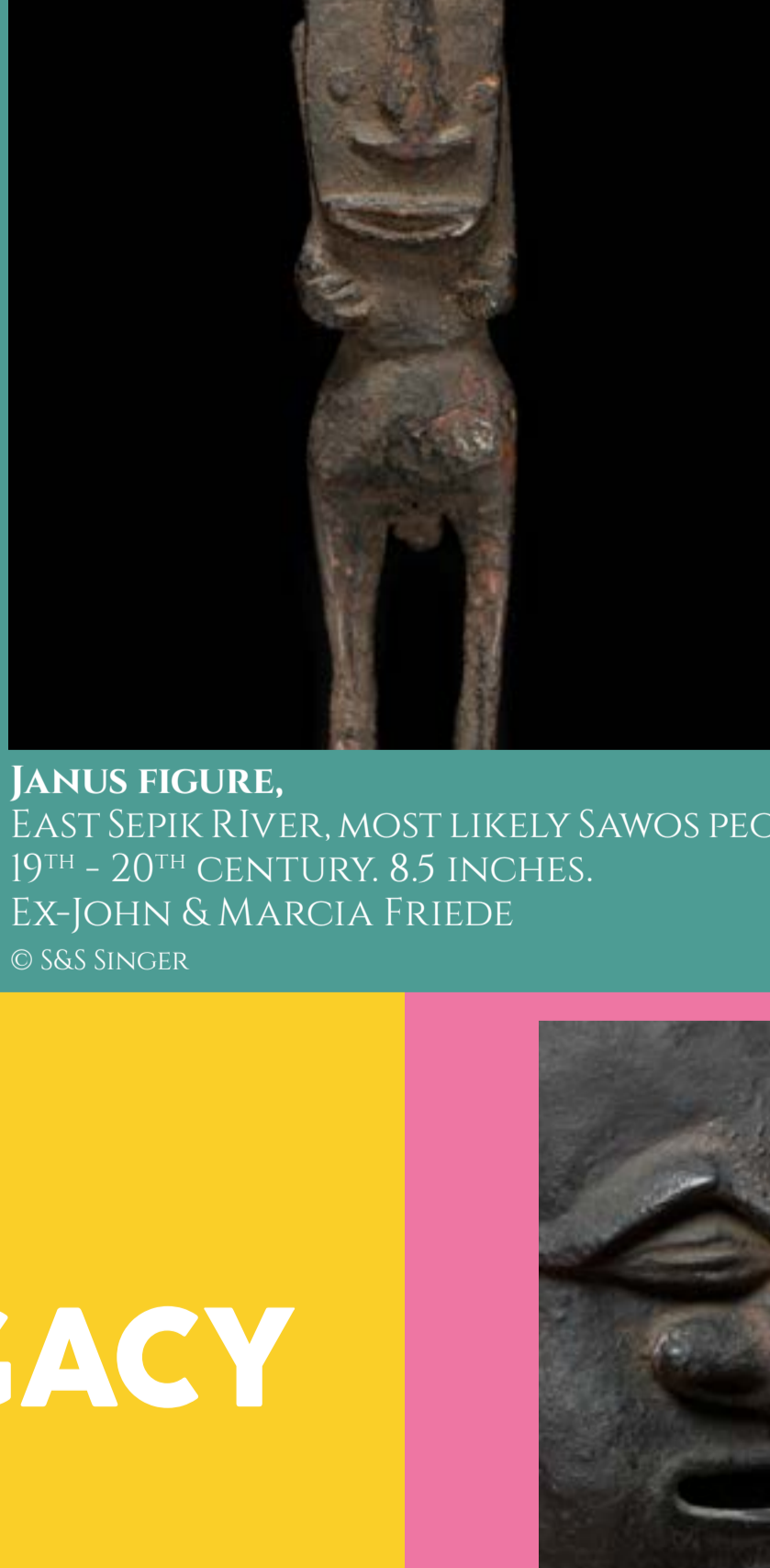
HER DISCERNING EYE?

YES. HER DISCERNING EYE.

DANCE FINIAL, NEPAL. WOOD, CLOTH. 19TH - 20TH CENTURY. 15 X 8 INCHES. EX-ROBERT BRUNDAGE © S&S SINGER

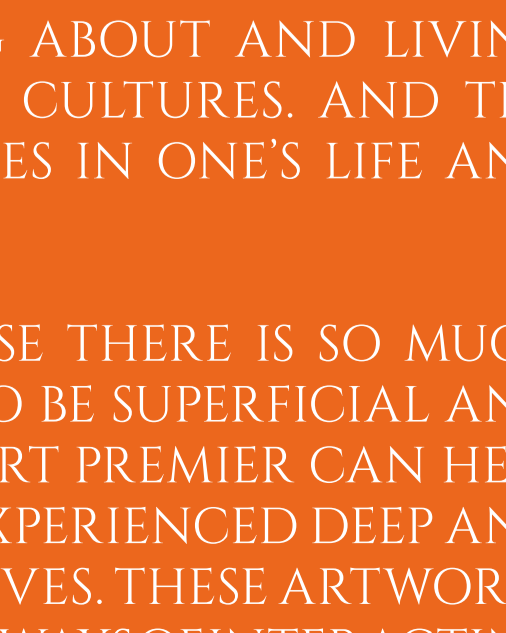
PERFECTION

FRAGMENTS ARE VERY COMPELLING. A PIECE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE PERFECT TO BE INCREDIBLY POWERFUL AND TO CONVEY ITS AUTHOR'S ORIGINAL INTENT. AND, SOMETIMES THE WEARING OF TIME AND THE ELEMENTS MAKES IT EVEN MORE POWERFUL, BECAUSE IT SHOWS ITS OLDNESS.



JANUS FIGURE, EAST SEPIK RIVER, MOST LIKELY SAWOS PEOPLE. WOOD. 19TH - 20TH CENTURY. 8.5 INCHES. EX-JOHN & MARCIA FRIEDE © S&S SINGER

LEGACY



KANAK MASK, NEW CALEDONIA. WOODS 19TH-20TH CENTURY. 12 X 10 INCHES. EX-COLLECTORS GUSTAVS HEATHCOTE, ROSENTHAL, CONRU © S&S SINGER

WE'RE SO IN LOVE WITH THE ARTS PREMIERS AND IT MEANS SO MUCH TO US AS A COUPLE AND AS HUMAN BEINGS THAT WE WANT OTHER PEOPLE TO BE AS EXCITED AND AS TURNED ON AS WE ARE. WE WANT OTHERS TO HAVE THE SAME SENSE OF DISCOVERY AND WONDER THAT WE'VE HAD IN LEARNING ABOUT AND LIVING WITH TRIBAL ART FROM OTHER CULTURES. AND THE INCREDIBLE DIFFERENCE IT MAKES IN ONE'S LIFE AND TO ENJOYING LIFE.

YES. IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. BECAUSE THERE IS SO MUCH IN OUR WORLD THAT APPEARS TO BE SUPERFICIAL AND ALMOST DEVOID OF MEANING. ART PREMIER CAN HELP US UNDERSTAND HOW OTHERS EXPERIENCED DEEP AND RICH MEANING IN THEIR DAILY LIVES. THESE ARTWORKS CONVEY THEIR BELIEFS, AND THEIR WAYS OF INTERACTING WITH EACH OTHER AND NATURE. WE HOPE THAT OUR CHILDREN, IN LOOKING AT THESE ARTWORKS, WILL THINK ABOUT THE CONTRAST BETWEEN OUR MODERN EXISTENCE AND THOSE OF TRIBAL PEOPLES.