



GALERIE MEYER
OCEANIC & ESKIMO ART



Shaman's Amulet or IINRUQ

An exceptionally fine shaman's amulet or iinruq (iinrut), representing a half figure with extensive tattoos on both the front and rear of the torso. The smiling face is tattooed at the edges of the eyes and the mouth is decorated with an inset, blue, glass labret. The arms and digitized hands are carved in relief and presented with the hands hold the lower belly under the bellybutton. The carving of the figure is remarkable with both the face and body showing the most subtle modeling.

Yup'ik (Eskimo), possibly Cape Vancouver, Alaska, USA. Walrus tusk (*Odobenus rosmarus divergens*) and glass trade-bead. 7,3 cm. 18th/19th century.