

SA1212621

Victorian taxidermy – Pair of Count Raggi's Bird of Paradise and a Magnificent Riflebird in a spectacular dome. Attributed to Henry Ward London. Circa 1870.

Price

GBP 3,400

| USD \$4,601 | EUR 3,978

Item Reference: SA1212621**Date of manufacture: 1870**

Dimensions

Height = 79 cm (31.1")

Width = 55 cm (21.7")

Description

A large and important dome that would have been pride of place in a fine Victorian home. The birds of paradise mounted above a much-coveted Magnificent Riflebird (this bird hardly ever turns up for sale, and is far more elusive than the more popular Paradise Rifle bird which is what normally turns up in a Victorian case of taxidermy). Unlabeled. 79cm High x 55cm Wide. Condition: To be fair the Count Raggi's birds of paradise are not perfect and are slightly faded, but never the less this is still an important and spectacular example of Victorian taxidermy. The gilded base still retains its original gilt finish and ceramic bun feet. The dome spectacular in size and presence, is original and still in one piece. The Raggiana Bird of Paradise is the national bird of Papua New Guinea and is included on the national flag. The Raggiana Bird of Paradise (*Paradisaea raggiana*), also known as Count Raggi's bird-of-paradise, is a large bird in the bird-of-paradise family *Paradisaeidae*. It is distributed widely in southern and northeastern New Guinea, where its known colloquially as kumul. As requested by Count Luigi Maria D'Albertis, the epithet *raggiana* commemorates the Marquis ...

Internal Ref: 26788

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