



**A MAGNIFICENT COLONIAL SCULPTURE OF A
FANNING PEACOCK**

Dimensions: H: 44.5 in / 113 cm | W: 34.5 in / 87 cm | D: 14 in / 35 cm

10610



A Magnificent Colonial [Sculpture](#)
Of a Fanning Peacock

Of colonial origin, probably India, the [wood sculpture](#) executed with a certain simplified anatomical idealism yet capturing the splendid lifelike essence of a parading peacock perfectly, standing proudly with its wings outstretched and fanning plumage behind, the train carved with attention to detail including the ocelli at the tips of the feathers which display vibrant, iridescent eye-spots meant to attract mates and show dominance.

Colonial, circa 1890

Evoking the grandeur of the British Raj, this significant carving captures the peacock in its most auspicious state fanning its feathers to signal the arrival of the monsoon and the renewal of prosperity. In the Anglo-Indian tradition, the “thousand eyes” of the plumage represent divine watchfulness and protection, a motif historically reserved for the highest echelons of society. As a

symbol of earlier Indian kingship, the 'Peacock Throne' was used in the Mughal empire, made for Shah Jahan in the early 17th century.