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Also listed in: [Collectibles](#) > [Animals](#) > [Whale](#)**Full Cast NARWHAL TUSK Original UNICORN HORN**

Item number: 2259078882

Bidder or seller of this item? [Sign in](#) for your status[Add to watch list](#) in My eBayCurrent bid: **US \$236.90**[Place Bid >](#)Time left: **1 days 22 hours**
5-day listing
Ends Jul-28-04 19:15:00
PDT
[Add to Calendar](#)

Start time: Jul-23-04 19:15:00 PDT

History: [1 bid](#) (US \$236.90
starting bid)High bidder: [njgwater \(private\)](#)Item location: Albuquerque, NM
United States
/Albuquerque-Santa Fe

Ships to: Worldwide

[↓ Shipping and payment details](#)**Description*****LEGEND and REALITY MEET!***The UNICORN HORN is REAL
but it's SOURCE is DIFFERENT and VERY UNUSUAL!

Full Size, Exact Cast of an Actual

NARWHAL IVORY TUSK*Custom Mounted***BOTH A WORK OF ART and a SYMBOL OF OUR
DREAMS****Seller information**[echoesintime](#) (602 ☆)

Feedback Score: 602

Positive Feedback: 99.7%

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VERY LIMITED EDITION
only 20
EVER CREATED !



NARWHAL TUSK
with *OPTIONAL*
Custom FLOOR Mount



German Woodcut of UNICORN, 1551 AD

*The
Unicorn Legend*



Photograph of a NARWHAL



NARWHAL TUSK
with *OPTIONAL* Custom WALL Mount

NOTE: This AUCTION is for the TUSK ONLY !
Presentation Options are Provided Below

These TUSKS are truly a work of ART!
Each is individually produced, one-at-a-time
completely by hand in the US.

UPDATE - the first group of TEN has completely *sold out!*
By special arrangement with the owner,

10 New Tusks have been commissioned
of which *less than ten* still remain!

SIZE:

Tusk: 4' 9" tall x 2"
dia. at base
Base: Optional, see
below

MATERIAL:

Tusk: SIMULATED
IVORY
 (see info
 below)
Base: Optional, see
below



Name: Full Size Cast of NARWHAL / UNICORN
TUSK

Time: c. 1978
Location: Arctic Circle
Location: Inuit Indians



Narwhals at Play

FULL
PIECE
STANDS
ABOUT
5 Feet TALL

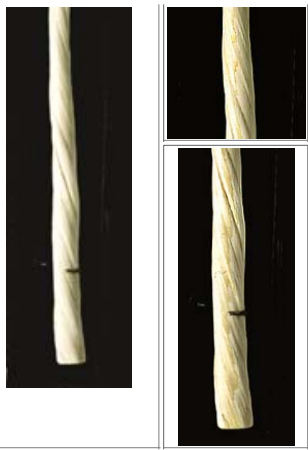
click on section
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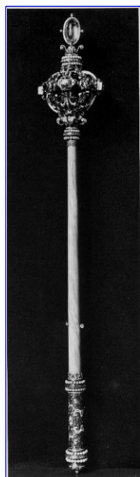
UNICORN LEGEND:

The legend of the Unicorn is an old, enduring and almost universal story. Surprisingly today we find it is cloaked in both myth and reality, substance and imagination. The "horn of the Unicorn" is, however, a tangible legacy from the middle ages. It has both form and substance today and exists not only as legend but as part of royal scepters (see below), crowns and thrones handed down as part of crown treasures from our distant past.

CHINA: The first recorded reference to the unicorn was made over 4000 years ago in China. Chinese chronicles report that on the birth of the famous Yellow Emperor (Huang-Ti) in 2607 BC, a k'I-lon or "great unicorn" walked majestically into the imperial house and after a brief exploration, vanished. Of the four animals of Chinese good omen, the dragon, phoenix, tortoise and unicorn, the unicorn believed to be the most important. Its sudden appearance is thought to herald the birth of a great person. The Yellow Emperor succeeded in uniting China, building the first great palace and developing a calendar. About 2000 years later, in the 6th Century BC, a unicorn is said to have visited a young woman in her garden and its mouth was a jade tablet with the words: "Son of mountain crystal, when the dynasty crumbles thou shalt rule as a throneless king." Shortly there after, the young woman gave birth to a son who became known as Confucius, China's greatest sage ? its "throneless king". The Chinese unicorn was described as having the hooves of a horse, the body of a stag, the tail of an ox, and a coat of five colors. This wise, noble and powerful creature was reported to have a 12 foot horn in the



**Cast Directly From an
Original Tusk
Obtained 25 years ago
by the
Inuit Indians
under a Canadian Permit.**



**SCEPTER of the
HABSBURGS**
Kunsthistorisches Museum,
Vienna
**Shaft reputed to be of
UNICORN HORN
is actually from a
NARWHAL TUSK**



middle of its forehead. It was reported In the 4th Century that when poisonous liquids were stirred with unicorn horn "a white foam would bubble up".

MIDDLE EAST: Unicorn horn traveled from China, via the 4000 mile Silk Road, to reach Baghdad, Constantinople, and Alexandria in the middle east. Arab historian al-Biruni wrote that the Egyptians craved unicorn horn because "... the approach of poison causes it to exude". He also reported that by the time it reached Egypt it was 200 times more expensive than in China.

EUROPE: In 416 BC a famous Greek physician Ctesias of Cnidus was appointed court physician to Darius II, king of Persia.. On his return to Greece he wrote about is experiences. He recounted merchant stories that in India there was an unusual species of wild ass which were as large as horses. "These creatures had "a horn on their forehead about a foot and a half in length." "The dust filed from this horn is administered in a potion as a protection against deadly drugs. ... Those that drink out of these horns, made into drinking vessels, are not subject, they say, to convulsions or the holy disease (epilepsy). Indeed, they are immune to poison if, either before of after swallowing such, they drink wine, water or anything else from such beakers." Later Greek naturalists such as Pliny and Aelian describe the unicorn at great length. In *De Animalium Natura*, a 2nd century Roman book on animals, the author wrote that kings of India drank from vessels of "unicorn horn". He reported that if poisoned liquids were poured into such cups, they would begin to sweat and change color. Marco Polo wrote in the 13th Century that he saw unicorns on the island of Sumatra. He described them as "...being smaller than the elephant but with similar feet ... In the middle of the forehead they have a single horn. Their head is like a wild boar ... They take delights in muddy pools and are filthy in their habits. They are not at all like those (unicorns) which are said to allow themselves to be taken by maidens". What Marco Polo actually saw was the now nearly extinct one-horned Sumatran rhinoceros.



The NARWHAL:

The name "narwhal" is Old Norse in origin. Derived from a word meaning "corpse," it refers to the color of adult narwhals (Monodon monoceros), which are white-grey with blotches of dark gray. The body length of males may reach 15 feet, while the tusk adds another 5 to 9 feet, and weigh up to 3000 lbs. Narwhals are relatively reclusive whales about which not a great deal is known. They are seldom seen south of the Arctic Circle. It is estimated that there are only approximately 10,000 to 45,000 narwhals alive today.

The "horn" is an extremely elongated, hollow **tooth** which always spirals counter-clockwise from the left side of the skull. There have been sightings of narwhals with two tusks present. Almost exclusively seen in males, there are only scattered reports of females developing a tusk. Narwhals have no other visible teeth in their jaws. As the tusk grows, it forms a continued solid spiral, a pattern faithfully reproduced by ancient artists trying to capture the likeness of the unicorn. Why this twisted growth should occur is a question that has long had no good answer and the function of the tusk is still open to debate. Although many have speculated that it may be used for defense or for securing food, it is most likely a secondary sexual characteristic. Behavioral and anatomical evidence suggests males use it in aggressive encounters when trying to obtain mates.

Ancient Vikings, with whom the term 'narwhal' originated, used to trade the horns to



Optional base - *click to enlarge*

The REPRODUCTION

A full cast was made of a Narwhal Tusk taken by the Inuit Indians in about 1978 with an International Permit issued by the Canadian government. A special 6 foot long pressurized containment vessel was constructed to hold the mold. Experiments were conducted with dental grade resins to try to reproduce the ivory appearance of the original. Special techniques were developed to fill the 5 foot tapering spiral mold uniformly and without bubbles. Removal of the final tusk from the mold without damage was challenging.

10 perfect copies were initially produced and sold in a short time. By permission with the owners a second run of 10 pieces were commissioned.

The piece is one of only twenty ever created and less than ten 10 are left.

Europeans as Unicorn horns. A tusk often weighed up to twenty-two pounds, are still considered rare and valuable treasures, with some ancient superstitions still attached. Vikings considered killing a Narwhal for its tusk unlucky, while finding one washed ashore was believed to be a sign of great fortune. Narwhals have never been a target for commercial whalers, although tusks were regularly traded. They are preyed upon by killer whales and Greenland sharks, but their main enemy is man. Since some still believe their tusk possess almost magical healing and aphrodisiac properties, they are still illegally hunted today. They are protected by both national and international laws. Current legislation restricts their use to Inuit for subsistence or domestic reasons. A quota system, which came into effect in 1977, requires hunters to possess a tag for each animal taken.

MERGING TRUTH and LEGEND

During the Middle Ages Europeans heard incredible, mystical stories from China, viewed first hand drawings from Africa of fantastic wildlife, including horse-like antelopes with beautiful horns such as the Ibex and Oryx, and were shown by the Vikings actual great spiral "horns", 8 or 9 feet long which gleamed with an inner fire.

In order to fit these facts together, the Unicorn Legend was born.

Truth, however, is only slightly less strange than fiction.

The "horn" was a tooth, the ONLY tooth of a whale that is one of earth's most remote and least understood animals. Its incredible beauty is due the fact that it is IVORY not bone, like antlers, and that unlike any other tooth or horn, it grows spear-like as a spiral - up to 10 feet long.

There is nothing else even remotely like this in the entire animal kingdom.

It is arguably the most unusual and majestic tusk, or horn, on Earth.

So perhaps we can understand our ancestors creating a legend beautiful enough to match the reality. Unfortunately people's belief in this legend, even today, may link the Unicorn and Narwhal in another way. Hunted almost to extinction solely for the beauty and magic of it's tusk, the Narwhal may one day join the Unicorn as a beautiful legend that only exists in our memories.

PRESENTATION OPTIONS

This auction is for the Narwhal Tusk cast ONLY.

The winner may, if desired, elect to also purchase either of the two following presentation options, pictured above:

1) VERTICALLY MOUNTED FLOOR STAND\$ 49.00

Custom forged blackened steel stand (8 lbs) - 5" tall X 8" X 8"
(see picture above and also picture at left)

2) HORIZONTALLY MOUNTED WALL PLAQUE\$ 59.00

Custom black hardwood plaque (5 lbs) - 5' 4" long X 7" tall X 1" thick
includes 2 custom made, **blacksmith forged twisted iron hooks** for support
(see picture above)

NOTE: These display mounts *must* ship separately. There is an *additional* S&H charge of **\$12.90** for the **Stand** or **\$19.50** for the **Plaque** for domestic shipment of these items. Contact us directly for information on foreign shipping charges.

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The closing time will be frozen when the first bid is received.

SHIPPING

Item will be shipped within **2 working days** after receipt of payment.

Confirmation of shipment will be E-mailed to you when item ships.

Delivery typically takes from 3 to 5 days from ship date, depending on location, within the continental US.

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TUSK Original
UNICORN HORN](#)

US \$289.90[Buy it Now](#)**Shipping and payment details**

Shipping and handling: Standard shipping service: US \$12.90
(within United States)

Shipping insurance: Included in shipping and handling cost

Sales tax: 5.813% (only in NM)

Will ship worldwide.

Seller's payment instructions & return policy:

CREDIT CARD payment - provide cardholder name, billing address, card number, and expiration date. --- SEND Information via: FAX - 505-248-0266 or email - info@echoesintime.com or call - 1-877-922-3246 Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m (MST). ---- Make CHECKS or MONEY ORDERS to ECHOES IN TIME ---- For SHIPPING PURPOSES, provide Name, Shipping Address and Phone Number ----- ALL ITEMS ARE INSURED and MAY BE RETURNED WITHIN 30 DAYS

Payment methods accepted

- Personal check
- Money order/Cashiers check
- Other - See Payment Instructions for payment methods accepted
- Visa/MasterCard, American Express, Discover

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Full Cast NARWHAL TUSK Original UNICORN HORN

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