



**Silver gilt mermaid rattle and whistle. North European, mid 18th century.
£1,950.00**

A silver gilt mermaid rattle and whistle.

North European, probably Frisia, mid 18th century.

Measures 11.2 x 7.5cm, excluding chain but including bells.

Amulets in the form of a mermaid have been used since the 17th century. The noise of the bells hanging along the lower edge would help to frighten off any evil spirits. In medieval France the mermaid also merged with the symbolism of motherhood.

