

Bird of Paradise

Edward Lear

Sold



Description

Edward Lear (1812-1888)

A Greater Bird of Paradise on a Branch

Signed lower right: E. Lear

Watercolour and pencil heightened with bodycolour

18.2 by 15.2 cm., 7 by 6 in.

Provenance:

By descent in the family of the owner

The Greater Bird-of-paradise (*Paradisaea apoda*) is the largest member in the genus *Paradisaea*. The male has an iridescent green face and a glossy yellow silver iridescence crown, head and nape. The rest of the body plumage is maroon-brown. The flank plumes, used in displays, are yellow at the base, turning white and streaked with maroon, with long twin tail wires. It can be found in lowland and hill forests of southwest New Guinea and Aru Islands, Indonesia.