



Extremely Rare Rag Rug Formerly Owned by the British Actress Jean Simmons

SOLD

PERIOD	1950-1959
YEAR	1955
STYLE	Arts and Crafts
ORIGIN	United States
MATERIALS	Cotton, Wool
DIMENSIONS	W: 120 in (304.8 cm)
CONDITION	Good

About this piece

A unique American rampaging colourful Rag Rug. 14' x 10' x 3/4" thick feels wonderful underfoot. It is so rare to find rag rugs of this magnificent size from the 1950s in such pristine condition.

Actress Jean Simmons, bought this rug when she was living in New Milford Connecticut in the early 1970s, she was born on New Years eve, 1929 in Crouch End, London. She went to dance school and at 14 years old played Margaret Lockwood's clever sister in Give Us the Moon 1944, and never looked back going on to star in Caesar and Cleopatra 1945, Great Expectations 1946, as the selfish Estella, Black Narcissus 1947, Hamlet 1948, playing Ophelia to Laurence Olivier's gaining Best Supporting Actress Oscar nomination, The Blue Lagoon 1949, So Long at the Fair 1950.

In 1950, she married actor Stewart Granger, and that same year, starred in the Frank Sinatra/Marlon Brando musical *Guys and Dolls*. In 1955 she used her own singing voice and earned her first Golden Globe Award. Simmons divorced Granger in 1960 and marrying writer-director Richard Brooks, who cast her as Sister Sharon opposite Burt Lancaster in *Elmer Gantry* 1960. That same year, she co-starred with Kirk Douglas in Stanley Kubrick's *Spartacus* and played opposite Cary Grant in *The Grass Is Greener*. A brilliant performance as the mother in *All the Way Home* 1963. *Life at the Top* 1965. *Mister Buddwing* 1966, *Divorce American Style* 1967. *Rough Night in Jericho* 1967. *The Happy Ending*, a Richard Brooks film for which she was again Oscar-nominated, this time as Best Actress. Jean continued making films well into the 1970s. In the 1980s, she appeared mainly in television. She lived in Santa Monica, California, with her dog, Mr. Gates, and her two cats, Adisson and Megan. Jean Simmons died on January 22, 2010, just before her 81st birthday when the rug was passed onto her family.