



## Two Boxes Of Herbalist Or Apothecary From The End Of The 17th Century



Price : 980 €

Signature : inconnu

Period : 17th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Chêne ciré et peint , cuir

Length: 23,5 cm

Width : 20 cm

Height : 24,5 cm

<https://www.proantic.comdisplay.php?id=624291>

### Description

One of the constant concerns of apothecaries "in store" was the conservation of the remedies they offered; Rabelais already called these wooden containers, round or rectangular, silenes or layes; Painted on the visible side with decorative or symbolic titles or patterns, the waxed wooden box kept "the simple" in the form of a dried plant, flowers, bark, roots, seeds ((here opium) horns, leaves, fruits , or animal powder (here the cantharide) like the 319 pieces of the apothecary shop of the hotel-Dieu Le comte in Troyes; The silÃ¨ne "opion" held the "poppy juice" prescribed since ancient Greece for its sedative effects; At the renaissance, "laudanum" was a very addictive opium tincture, created by Paracelsus to fight acute diarrhea; The "cantharide" silene contained a powder of this beast called "Spanish fly" (or

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Milan fly), ancestor if ever there was, of "Viagra", which in the form of "Hercules dragees" or "Richelieu pastilles" "was absorbed in the warm evenings of the Marquis de Sade; These two boxes are very rare and as the apothecaries have improved the conservation of their substances, they were squeezed out at the end of the 18th century by the known containers that are the jars of porcelain, glass and even sheet metal. in good condition, have only undergone weak conservatory restorations and the replacement of the leather hinges for their cover