



**PROANTIC**  
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Bologna, Manufacture Angelo Minghetti- The Madonna Of The Olives, Circa 1896.



1 850 EUR

Signature : Minghetti

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état (quelques infimes éclats). voir photos

Width : 17 cm

Height : 39 cm

Depth : 15 cm

#### Description

Bologna, Manufacture of Artistic Ceramics  
Angelo Minghetti and son-, The Madonna of the Olives. Statuette in "glazed" polychrome earthenware with a decoration called "a fiori, frutti, a foglie" executed in small fire enamels depicting, seated on a neo-Gothic cathedra with a high backplash covered with an olive branch, the Virgin Mary and the Child Jesus. On a step from the Throne, the painted cartel titled: "Quasi Olivia Speciosa in Campi". The back, hollowed out, bears painted in blue the signature of Angelo Minghetti composed of the three intertwined letters "A, M, F" inserted between a star and a stylized brace. Circa 1896. Sitting enthroned on a raised cathedra lined with lush fringed brocade, her devoutly melancholy face encircled by a flap of the ample mantle that envelops her entirely, the

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Virgin Mary tenderly maintains, with her slender-fingered hands, the Child Jesus seated upright on his left knee. Draped in a fine fabric emphasizing his chubby shapes, the Divine toddler with a blond head slightly inclined, with a smiling gaze directed towards the Earth, carries in a gesture of leniency his left hand on his bare chest and, with the other, maintains such an offering of an olive branch. Evoking, according to the Christian iconographic tradition, certain episodes in the life of Christ - and, more particularly, that of his Prayer in the Garden of Gethsèmani preceding his Sacrifice - this pacifying symbol halos with its undulating ramage the top of the high molded backrest; echoing this, one of the steps of the throne of grace is centered on a label titled with a verse from the Old Testament: "Quasi Olivia Speciosa in Campi". Haloed in a milky white, the slender and graceful figures are adorned with fabrics with a subtle chromaticism. Playing on the soft harmony of washed lapis blue, pink and yellow, it is enhanced with a mesh of stylized floral and ornamental motifs (ribbons, stars) in dazzling tones of purple and orange set with a delicate light green. Standing out against a nuanced background of olive green, the narrow ochre band of the brocade worked with scrolls, acanthus foliage, quadrilobed rosettes, lozenges with brown outlines give this piece, on its whole "glazed", richness and brightness. Composition endowed with a delicate eurhythmy, attitudes and expressions chaste and soft, search for a decorative elegance to which the fluid drapes of the fabrics dotted with suave floral motifs (decor called "a fiori, frutti a foglie") give a certain preciousness, chromatic refinement adjusted to the sacredness of the subject distinguish this Madonna of the Olives endowed with great poetic charm. Like other Madonnas created around the years 1890-1910 by the Manufacture de "Ceramische Artistiche Angelo Minghetti e Figli" - of which few Bolognese interiors are deprived and highly sought after, rightly, by an

international clientele -, our statuette both by the clarity of its symbolism and by its refined aestheticism, its decorative qualities move and enchant. It also relates to the sensitivity of an era in love with the turn of the 19th-20th centuries of mysticism. To this inclination respond eminent representatives of the European decorative arts such as Angelo Minghetti - designer in collaboration with Arturo Colombarini (1871-1940) of this effigy - by combining the trends of these decades (Pre-Raphaelism, Symbolism) with essential referents (ancient models derived from the Quattrocento, Gothic Renaissance ornamental lexicon). Our Madonna presents similarities with a canvas executed in 1883 by Nicoli Barabino (1832-1891) - Quasi Oliva Speciosa in Campis - whose composition, engraved by G. Cantagalli, was widely distributed in the Peninsula. Italy, Bologna, late 19th-20th century. Materials: Earthenware, enameled polychrome decoration under glaze. Dimensions: H.: 39.5 cm; L.: 17cm; Depth: 15 cm. - The Manufacture of Artistic Ceramics Angelo Minghetti et Fils (1858-1967). In a century keen on "objects and High-curiosity" and, more particularly in love with Italian Majolica from the Renaissance period from the Romantic period, Angelo Minghetti (Bologna, 1822-1885) founded as an enterprising man around 1858 a small business family of "Ceramische Artistiche" in his hometown. Located near the Pepoli Palace, the workshops of its Manufacture will then be transferred to via Zamboni (1864) then 87, porte San Vitale (1878). Introduced to the art of Majolica as a worker and then collaborator with the Bucci Ceramics Factory in Imola (Emilia) for which he restored 16th century Faenza pieces or made copies of these famous "glazed earthenware" requested by antique dealers catering to the tastes of European customers, A. Minghetti presented his own creations in 1869 at the Bologna Industrial Exhibition. Rewarded with a Silver Medal, these augur the career punctuated with national and international successes of this

talented ceramist: silver medal (Rome, 1883; Turin, 1884) gold medal (Vienna, 1873; Milan, 1881), Honorable Mention (Paris, 1878) and Diplôme d'Honneur (Turin, 1881). Attached to vivifying a secular art by drawing inspiration from the compositions of Della Robbia or by re-inventing the sculptural forms and complex motifs of the Settecento, Minghetti was hailed at the Turin Exhibition (1884) as the 'felice inovatore dell'arte ceramica italiano".