Sculpture Of Saint Anthony (the Great) - Brussels - Ca. 1480



2 950 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Oak

Width : 17

Height : 58

Depth : 13

Description

Saint Anthony (The Great)

Brussels - ca. 1480

Refined wooden (oak) sculpture with remnants of original polychrome
Expressive face with all the symbols of Saint Anthony (pig, bell, remains of a book)

Provenance: private collection Bruges

Anthony the Great (12 January 251 - 17 January 356) was a Christian monk from Egypt, revered since his death as a saint. He is distinguished from other saints named Anthony, such as Anthony of Padua, by various epithets: Anthony of Egypt, Anthony the Abbot, Anthony of the

Dealer

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Desert, Anthony the Anchorite, Anthony the Hermit, and Anthony of Thebes. For his importance among the Desert Fathers and to all later Christian monasticism, he is also known as the Father of All Monks. His feast day is celebrated on 17 January among the Eastern Orthodox and Catholic churches and on Tobi 22 in the Coptic calendar.
The biography of Anthony's life by Athanasius of Alexandria helped to spread the concept of Christian monasticism, particularly in Western Europe via its Latin translations. He is often erroneously considered the first Christian monk, but as his biography and other sources make clear, there were many ascetics before him. Anthony was, however, among the first known to go into the wilderness (about AD 270), which seems to have contributed to his renown.
Accounts of Anthony enduring supernatural temptation during his sojourn in the Eastern Desert of Egypt inspired the depiction of his temptations in visual art and literature.

Anthony is appealed to against infectious diseases, particularly skin diseases. In the past, many such afflictions, including ergotism, erysipelas, and shingles, were referred to as Saint Anthony's fire.