



## Mercury Toothpick Holder (paliteiro) In Partially Gilded Silver - Porto, Between 1853 And 1861



1 150 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Sterling silver

Height : 18,5

### Description

Toothpick holder ("Paliteiro")

Porto, between 1853 and 1861

Solid silver partially gilded

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Total height: 18.5 cm

Weight: 253 g

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Mercury, with his winged helmet and ankles, his right leg on a globe, holds a purse in his left hand. The caduceus in his right hand is missing.

The helmet, purse and globe are in gilded silver [wear, especially on the helmet].

The globe is screwed onto a column, attached to the square terrace with very good quality embossed foliage decoration.

The terrace is set on four lion's paws.

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### Dealer

Thuriot Antiquaire

Passeur de patrimoine depuis 2005

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Sion 1950

- Porto hallmark, controller Caetano Rodrigues de Araújo, used from 1853 to 1861 [VIDAL p.11, n°102]
- Control stripe
- Unidentified goldsmith's hallmark [initials MJG, see VIDAL p. 148, n°1444]
- Unidentified B mark on the terrace.

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Very good general condition.

The missing caduceus can be replaced with a toothpick.

Wear to the vermeil, especially on the helmet.

Small minor tears on the terrace, at the junction with the embossed decoration (see photo below and detail photo of hallmark B).

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#### Reference

Manuel Gonçalves Vidal, Marcas de Contrastes e Ourives Portugueses Desde o Século XV a 1950, Casa da Modea, Lisbon 1958