



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Renaissance Pendant Of The Pelican In Her Piety. Spanish, 16th - 17th Century.



18 000 EUR

Period : 16th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Gold

Description

A Renaissance gold and enamel pendant of the Pelican in her piety.

Spanish, late 16th - early 17th century.

Measures 8.8 x 3.7 x 1.3cm.

The pelican is shown with outstretched wings, perched upon a branch and about to pierce her breast. The pendant is extensively decorated in champlevé white, green, red and black enamels. Chains attached to each of the bird's wings are suspended from a single enamelled pendant bail. A baroque pearl is suspended from the bird's feet and an emerald and a ruby from each of the bird's wings.

Dealer

Belle Histoire

Early European sculpture, works of art and jewellery

Tel : +44 (0) 7906 300197

58 Davies Street

London W1K 5LP

This enamelled gold pendant represents a subject known as 'The Pelican in her Piety'. It refers to the medieval fable of the pelican drawing blood from its own breast to feed its young. This image is used to symbolise Christ sacrificing himself on the cross to redeem the world's sins. It was associated with Elizabeth as mother of her nation. The queen owned several pelican jewels set with rubies or garnets.

References:

Eagle Pendant, circa 1600-1630. Collection of the Hispanic Museum & Library, New York, accession Number: R3499

The Pelican in her Piety Pendant, ca. 1550-1575. Collection of the Victoria and Albert Museum, accession number; 335-1870