

Antique Black Forest Carved Wood Nutcracker, Grotesque Woman's Head, Late 19th Century



200 EUR

Period: 19th century

Condition : Très bon état Material : Solid wood

Length: 21 cm

Description

Antique Black Forest Hand-Carved Wood Nutcracker, Grotesque Woman's Head, Late 19th Century

This impressive antique Black Forest nutcracker depicts a highly expressive, grotesque woman's head, skilfully hand-carved from solid wood. Dating to the late 19th century, this charming example of folk art sculpture displays remarkable craftsmanship, with deeply incised facial wrinkles, a textured headscarf, and a dynamic open-mouth mechanism for cracking nuts. The nutcracker is finished with a rich, naturally aged brown patina, subtly highlighted with reddish tones on the headscarf, enhancing the carving's depth and character. The two-piece lever action, typical of traditional hand-carved nutcrackers, remains functional, making this

Dealer

Gillers Antiques

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piece both decorative and usable.

A fine example of 19th-century Black Forest craftsmanship, combining functionality with whimsical, satirical artistry, this piece would make a striking addition to a collection of antique nutcrackers, folk art, or Black Forest carvings. Perfect for display in rustic, country, alpine, or eclectic interiors.

Historical Background

Black Forest carvings originated in the 19th century in the Brienz region of Switzerland, becoming synonymous with highly detailed woodcarvings often featuring animals, nature scenes, or humorous figures. Nutcrackers were particularly popular and often produced as humorous or grotesque caricatures for functional and decorative use.

Measurements

Length: 21 cm / 8.27"

Condition

Excellent antique condition with vibrant patina and crisp carving. The wood shows attractive natural ageing, including minor surface wear consistent with use. No major cracks or structural repairs noted. The nutcracker mechanism remains operational. Please review all photographs carefully, as they form part of the description.

Shipping & Packaging

Fully tracked and insured delivery. Shipping cost includes professional packaging, handling, and postage. Carefully packed using recycled materials. Customs paperwork provided where necessary for smooth international delivery.

Please review all photographs carefully, as they form part of the description, and feel free to ask any questions.

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