Pharmacy Jar Or Albarello Palermo, Sicily, Italy Late 17th - Early 18th Century



2 800 EUR

Period : 17th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Ceramic

Description

PHARMACY POT or ALBARELLO
Palermo, Sicily, Italy
Late 17th - early 18th century
Earthenware
H. 26; Diam. 15.5 cm

This Sicilian medicine jar, known as an albarello, is made of majolica in the shape of an albarelle: cylindrical, curved at the waist (to make it easier to grip) and with a shoulder at the beaded neck (to attach a ligature and close the container). It is entirely covered with polychrome decoration organized in two cartouches: one, on a blue background, is centered on a round medallion with a bust portrait of the Grim Reaper; the other, on a yellow ochre background, features the portrait of a bearded man wearing a hood.

Dealer

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110 rue des rosiers
Saint-Ouen 93400

The upper and lower edges are animated by a frieze of yellow interlacing, framed in brown - typical of the region.

Albarelli were prized by apothecaries and pharmacies, who used them to store ointments, medicinal plants and other powders, thanks to the non-porous properties of these containers.

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