



Pair Of Polychrome Porcelain Sculptures Forming Orchid-shaped Bouquet Holders

850 EUR



Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Porcelain

Height : 11 cm

Description

A delicate pair of sculptures depicting two lifelike orchids in hand-painted porcelain.

The pieces rest on a gilt bronze mount and are designed as vase-like bouquet holders.

Exemplifying exceptional craftsmanship, these sculptures display remarkable finesse in their polychrome detailing. A rare model of exquisite quality.

This pair of bouquet holders adopts the delicate form of blooming orchids, capturing with precision the botanical details of the flower. The modeling and glazing work enhances the refinement of the petals, whose graceful curves seem to preserve the lightness of the plant in full bloom. The porcelain's lustrous finish,

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accentuated by subtle color variations, lends the ensemble the refinement characteristic of late 19th-century productions, a period when naturalism flourished in the decorative arts. The orchid is an emblematic motif in Belle Époque and Art Nouveau decorative arts. Associated with elegance and exoticism, it also symbolizes sensuality and rarity. Its popularity in ornamental objects reflects Western society's fascination with exotic flowers, fueled by major botanical discoveries and the development of exceptional greenhouses across Europe.

Bouquet holders, highly prized during the 18th and 19th centuries, were used to display small floral compositions, often complementing an elegant table setting or a sophisticated interior. Here, the orchid representation goes beyond mere functionality, fully participating in the aesthetic celebration of an idealized and stylized nature. Although the exact origin of these pieces remains uncertain, they align with the tradition of European manufactures specializing in naturalistic porcelain. In addition to prestigious French houses such as Sèvres and Haviland, and German makers like Meissen, certain Italian manufacturers, including Capodimonte, also created floral porcelain compositions, though often with a more ornamental and baroque approach. The meticulous attention to modeling and finishing suggests an affinity with workshops influenced by Art Nouveau, which developed an artistic language deeply inspired by the botanical world.

This pair of bouquet holders beautifully illustrates the late 19th-century enthusiasm for stylized nature and the virtuosity of porcelain artisans. Blending naturalism with decorative elegance, these pieces stand as a testament to refined craftsmanship and an era where porcelain became a canvas for artistic expression, harmonizing sophistication and poetry.