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## Very Antique Spanish Oil Container Or Sacramentary In Silver. 18th Century

450 EUR



Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Sterling silver

Length : 8.5

Height : 4.3

Depth : 2.8

### Description

This exceptional Spanish olearium or sacramentary, dated to the eighteenth century, is a unique piece for any collector of religious antiques. Entirely crafted in silver and featuring a dazzling gilded silver interior, this olearium stands out both for its functionality and its ornamental beauty. The two lids of the olearium open to reveal two distinct compartments. One of the lids is marked with a "C", referring to the chrism, a sacred mixture of oil and balm used in various sacraments such as baptism, confirmation, and ordination. The other lid bears the mark "CH", corresponding to the oil of catechumens, used to anoint those preparing for baptism. The olearium, also known as a sacramentary, has been an essential object in Christian religious ceremonies since ancient

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times. These containers were used to hold and consecrate sacred oils, which played a crucial role in rituals such as baptism, confirmation, and the anointing of the sick. In Spain, the tradition of religious silverwork flourished during the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, reaching its peak in the eighteenth century. Spanish artisans were renowned for their skill in creating intricate and highly ornate liturgical objects, using techniques passed down through generations. The olearium bears Spanish hallmarks; however, the specific city or silversmith could not be identified, adding a halo of mystery to this valuable piece. It could be earlier than the eighteenth century, but due to the lack of precise identification of the hallmarks, this assumption cannot be confirmed.

Nonetheless, the zigzag mark, indicating the purity of the metal, is a common practice in Spanish silverwork, thus confirming its Hispanic origin. The use of hallmarks and contrast marks in silverwork not only certified the quality of the metal but also helped identify the origin and authenticity of the pieces. Although the specific details of this particular olearium have not been fully identified, its style and the present marks are indicative of the rich Spanish artisanal tradition of the time. This wonderful piece is not only a representation of the devotion and craftsmanship of its era but would also make an impressive adornment in any private collection or museum exhibition. Its well-preserved condition and the meticulous detail of its engravings testify to the skill and dedication of the artisans who created it. Do not miss the opportunity to acquire this historical and religious jewel! Dimensions: 8.5 cm x 4.3 cm x 2.8 cm (3.35 in x 1.69 in x 1.1 in)