



Double-sided Florentine Devotional Pendant - Late 16th / Early 17th Century



5 600 EUR

Period : 17th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Gold

Height : 8

Description

Gold, bloodstone, polychrome enamel, engraved rock crystal, painting on copper. A remarkable example of late-Renaissance devotional art, this double-sided pendant--likely created in Florence between the late 16th and early 17th centuries--merges goldsmithing, miniature painting, hardstone carving, and Christian symbolism into an object of extraordinary spiritual and artistic refinement. The body is made of bloodstone (heliotrope), a dark green hardstone with red specks traditionally associated with Christ's Passion. It is adorned with fine gold and polychrome enamel mounts--particularly blue and white motifs reminiscent of heraldic or floral forms--arranged in a cruciform layout. On the front, beneath a convex rock crystal, appears a powerful gilded relief of Christ's face, mounted

Dealer

AntiquarioRoma

Antique dealer

Tel : 0039 0669341347

Mobile : 0039 3398746866

Via Fulcieri Paulucci de Calboli, 55

Rome 00195

on a golden surface engraved with delicate symbolic motifs: Six-petaled flowers and rosettes: signs of purity, resurrection, and heavenly glory; Stylized branches and palmettes: symbols of eternal life and sacred growth; Symmetrical vegetal volutes: evoking Renaissance designs of cosmic harmony and the Tree of Life. The reverse features a miniature painting on copper, delicately rendered and depicting Saint Joseph accompanied by an angel. Set against a gold background, the scene conveys deep spiritual intimacy and the protective role of the saint. Likely worn as a personal reliquary or devotional pendant, this jewel expresses the union of faith, art, and sacred meaning characteristic of late-Mannerist Florentine culture, where beauty was seen as a path to spiritual elevation.