



Ww1trench Art Knife - "souvenir De Guerre 1914-1917" - Handcrafted From Shrapnel



300 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Wrought iron

Length : 33 cm

Description

WWI Trench Art Knife - "Souvenir de Guerre 1914-1917" - Handcrafted from Shrapnel - 33 cm
This is an extraordinary and authentic piece of WWI trench art, handcrafted by a soldier using salvaged shrapnel from the battlefield. Measuring 33 cm in total length, this knife stands as a powerful relic of wartime resourcefulness, skill, and commemoration. Key Features
Material: Forged from battlefield shrapnel, showcasing the ingenuity and craftsmanship of soldiers using war remnants to create personal artifacts.
Engraved Handle: Decorated with: A detailed portrait of a uniformed soldier standing with his rifle, likely representing a French or Belgian infantryman. Floral and scrollwork motifs both above and below the figure. Extensive engraving along the spine, including the inscription: "1914

Dealer

Art Classique

curiosités, art premier et Asiatique

Mobile : 0032-475272534

Bilzen 3740

Souvenir de Guerre 1917" - French for "War Souvenir", indicating this piece was made during or just after the conflict. Reverse Handle: Finely engraved with swirling floral arabesques and punched-dot borders, characteristic of trench art's elaborate decorative style. Condition: Blade bears oxidation and age-appropriate wear; the handle end shows signs of damage and erosion, consistent with its origin as shrapnel and its age of over 100 years. Historical Significance During the Great War, soldiers on the front lines repurposed leftover materials from artillery shells and shrapnel to create keepsakes, known as trench art. This knife is a striking example--fashioned directly from a piece of battlefield debris, it is not only functional but deeply symbolic of wartime survival, memory, and personal expression. A Collector's Treasure This is a rare and evocative artifact for collectors of military memorabilia, trench art, or early 20th-century history. Whether displayed in a collection, museum, or heritage exhibit, it tells a story of resilience, creativity, and remembrance forged in the crucible of war.