



Antique Tobacco Scale With Horn Trays - 19th Century, Napoleon III Period

450 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Cast iron

Length : 35.5 x 17 cm

Height : 17.5 cm



Description

Antique French Tobacco Scale with Horn Pans - 19th Century, Napoleon III Period
Rare and highly decorative French tobacco counter scale dating from the Napoleon III period (circa 1860-1890).

Materials: black patinated cast iron frame with a central orientalist figure (man with traditional hat and parasol), resting on a rectangular marble base mounted on wood.

Pans: original bovine horn trays, very unusual and fragile, seldom preserved. Most comparable scales were made with brass or copper pans - making this example particularly rare.

Markings: inscribed "GARANTIE" in a cartouche under the central figure - a typical French guarantee stamp of the period.

Dimensions: approx. 35.5 x 17 cm (base), height

Dealer

Art Classique

curiosités, art premier et Asiatique

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Bilzen 3740

17.5 cm including the finial.

This type of balance (balance à tabac) was used in French tobacconists' shops to weigh loose tobacco in small quantities. Beyond its function, it also served as a counter showpiece, reflecting the 19th-century taste for exotic and orientalist decoration.

Condition

Good antique condition consistent with age.

Patina and minor oxidation to the cast iron.

Wear and natural cracks to the horn trays (expected for this material).

Marble base with minor surface wear.