

Burmese Kalaga With Royal Court Scenes



12 500 EUR

Period: 19th century Condition: Bon état Material: Tapestry

Length: 334

Width: 168

Description

This extraordinary embroidered hanging, over three meters long, is a fine example of a Burmese kalaga, dating from the late 19th to early 20th century. Set against a black velvet ground, it features appliquéd figures in padded fabric, richly adorned with gold and silver threads, beads, and tiny mirrors that catch the light and bring the scenes to life. The composition unfolds across several narrative registers, depicting solemn episodes from the life of a ruler: court scenes beneath ornate pavilions, processions with ceremonial chariots drawn by horses, dignitaries and guards on parade, divine beings and celestial figures floating among the clouds. Every detail, from the elaborate costumes to the foliage of the trees, is rendered with extraordinary precision, evoking the vitality and splendor of the royal

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court of Mandalay. The broad border surrounding the panel is decorated with repeated medallions, establishing a solemn rhythm that enhances the monumentality of the work. More than a textile, this kalaga is a visual chronicle, celebrating the power, spirituality, and magnificence of the Burmese emperor, designed to inspire wonder in the viewer.