



## Micromosaic Plaque With Birds Around A Feeding Trough

6 900 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Stone

Length : 6

Width : 3.5



### Description

Rome, first half of the 19th century  
Minute glass tesserae on copper support  
This refined micromosaic depicts a lively natural scene: on a grassy ground, in front of a wooden feeding trough rendered with meticulous perspective, four small birds - probably goldfinches or sparrows - gather in different poses: some resting on the ground, others perched on the trough, and one caught mid-flight. To the right, completing the composition, stands a larger and more colorful specimen, with red, orange, and green plumage, an exotic and ornamental presence, perhaps a pheasant or a stylized parrot. The light, compact background, built with tightly set tesserae, enhances the chromatic brilliance of the figures, while the ground in green and brown shades provides depth and naturalism. The careful

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Antique dealer

Tel : 0039 0669341347

Mobile : 0039 3398746866

Via Fulcieri Paulucci de Calboli, 55

Roma 00195

rendering of the feathers and the delicate arrangement of tesserae testify to the exceptional craftsmanship of a Roman workshop active in the early 19th century, during the height of the Grand Tour. The subject, inspired by ancient mosaics from Pompeii and Rome depicting still life and animal scenes, was highly appreciated by foreign travelers, who purchased such plaques as refined artistic souvenirs to be mounted in snuffboxes, caskets, or precious frames.