



Roman Micromosaic With Theatrical Masks

12 300 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Stone

Length : 20,5

Width : 18



Description

Rome, first half of the 19th century Micromosaic in glass tesserae on dark stone ground; original gilded wooden frame. Dimensions: plaque 15 × 11.5 cm; with frame 20.5 × 18 cm. This refined Roman micromosaic depicts two theatrical masks resting on an architectural ledge, set against a marble background rendered with striking perspective accuracy. The female tragic mask, pale and sorrowful, contrasts with the male comic mask, crowned with ivy -- a clear reference to Dionysus, the god of theatre and wine. Inspired by ancient Roman and Pompeian mosaics, this subject became popular among Roman mosaicists producing works for Grand Tour travelers. The execution is of exceptional quality, with extremely fine glass tesserae achieving delicate tonal gradations and remarkable naturalism. The

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original gilded frame, with stepped mouldings and a floral frieze on the upper section, enhances the piece's refined neoclassical character.