



Antique Ica Tropica 345 Camera. Format 10x15 Cm. Or 4x6 In. Germany Circa 1912

650 EUR



Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Length : 18.8 cm (7.40 in)

Height : 18.8 cm (7.40 in)

Description

We present this magnificent antique ICA Tropica 345 camera in 10x15 cm or 4x6 inches format, manufactured in Dresden Germany between 1912 and 1926, a piece that combines refined technique, artisanal beauty and an impressive historical presence. When holding it you immediately perceive the quality that defined German industry in the early twentieth century. Its wooden body preserves a warm and natural shine that speaks of time with elegance. The metal fittings show firmness, uniformity and a clean finish that enhances every edge and every joint. The entire camera conveys a sense of balance, precision and mechanical harmony. The black bellows is in excellent condition. It does not allow light to pass through, keeps its flexibility and offers the necessary security to preserve its

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original functionality. On the front stands the Compur shutter together with a prestigious Carl Zeiss Jena Tessar 4.5 lens of 15.5 cm, an optic that became an international reference thanks to its sharpness, contrast and its ability to deliver high quality images even at moderate apertures. The condition is superb and confirms that this unit has been carefully preserved throughout its life. A feature that makes this example especially interesting is the presence of elements that are not common within the Tropica 345 model. Instead of the upper mirror-type viewfinder frequently seen in standard references, this camera includes a lateral optical viewfinder, a configuration not found in most known units. This difference is particularly attractive for collectors who seek distinctive examples or unusual variations. Added to this is a detail of great historical interest. On the metal corner of the lower right side there is a hand engraved marking that reads C. P. 130. This type of manual engraving appears on some pre-series units, prototypes or specific workshop models. Combined with the unusual lateral viewfinder this marking reinforces the possibility that this camera belonged to an internal series or a non standard batch of pre-production prototypes. It does not allow us to assert with certainty that it is a prototype but it certainly opens a very interesting and valuable line of interpretation for any collector. The camera is offered with an original ICA 10x15 cm plate holder, an essential piece to preserve the historical integrity of the set. All movements unfold with smoothness and precision. The front standard moves correctly. The base remains solid and the wood preserves a beautiful patina with light signs of life that add character without affecting its beauty. This Tropica displays wonderfully in a specialized showcase, in a classic photography studio or in any decorative space that seeks a piece with soul and presence. Its combination of Zeiss optics, German construction, excellent condition and uncommon details makes it an ideal acquisition. It is a camera capable of transmitting emotion,

history and authenticity with just one look. And it is also a smart investment for anyone who values scarce pieces full of personality. The opportunity to add it to a collection is truly exceptional due to the beauty of the set and the singular characteristics it offers. Before moving to the measurements it is worth remembering that this Tropica ennobles any room and never leaves anyone indifferent due to its visual strength and technical charm. This camera not only stands out for its rarity but for the emotion it conveys every time it is contemplated since it is a piece capable of filling any space with history and beauty.

Investing in a Tropica like this means securing a difficult to find piece with exceptional potential for revaluation thanks to its unique details.

Whoever incorporates it into their collection will enjoy an object with its own soul able to bring character personality and an unmistakable presence to any environment. Measurements:

18.8 cm x 18.8 cm (7.40 in x 7.40 in) History of ICA ICA, Internationale Camera

Actiengesellschaft, (International Camera Joint Stock Company) was founded in Dresden Germany in 1909 as the result of the union of several firms dedicated to the manufacture of photographic cameras. Dresden was already an important European centre of optical and mechanical innovation. The city housed specialized artisan workshops alongside advanced engineering factories which allowed ICA to develop high quality models with remarkable precision. The plate cameras and folding cameras manufactured by ICA quickly stood out for their robustness, elegant construction and their frequent collaboration with Carl Zeiss Jena, which provided lenses of extraordinary quality. During the years prior to 1926 ICA focused on portable large format cameras intended for professionals and photographers who required reliability and resistance outdoors. The Tropica line occupied a special place due to its practical design and solid construction conceived to withstand prolonged use in different conditions.

In 1926 ICA merged into Zeiss Ikon one of the most influential photographic consortia of the first half of the twentieth century. Thanks to their quality and their history ICA cameras continue today to be appreciated and recognized by collectors who value the importance of Dresden's technical legacy. We are professional antique dealers. To see more photos of this item, Please click on this link:

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