



Richly Chiseled Cutlass, "eared" Handle

1 100 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Length : 38 cm



Description

A very fine cutlass, whose geographical origin remains to be determined. Western without a doubt, perhaps Greek work due to the shape of the handle, or Central European? Why not Slavic? For the period, we are of course in the 19th century. The hallmarks on the chape may help with its localization; I leave their identification to the specialists, and I gladly welcome any information. On the inner face, a pretty chiseled decoration in the form of plants, covering the first 5 cm. On the outer face: High-relief decoration with chiseled plants, an inlay of yellow metal, probably gold, representing a crown above a motif that I cannot identify. Then, a high-relief depiction of an ancient warrior, standing with sword and shield, holding a defeated adversary in submission with one foot

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on the neck; the defeated adversary sits with his hands tied behind his back. This warrior symbolism probably has a very specific meaning, probably the commemoration of a victory, but I cannot define which one... Blade length = 23.3 cm, width at the ricasso = 2.9 cm, thickness at the ricasso = 6 mm. HILT : It consists of two ivory plates riveted to the tang of the blade. These plates spread apart at the end of the handle, forming a so-called "eared" handle, like those found on Greek daggers. The upper and lower central metal faces are chased. SCABBARD: This is the original scabbard, without any restoration. It is made of wood covered with leather, with a scabbard mouthpiece and chape made of white metal that appears to be silver. The hallmarks on the scabbard mouthpiece may be familiar to specialists; they are beyond my expertise. The overall quality is evident, worthy of the finest cutlers. Despite the air of mystery surrounding it, this beautiful knife will find its place in a gentleman's collection. Ref D-25/2-24 Shipping costs: France EUR20, Europe EUR30