



Gioco Del Ponte Helmet



5 500 EUR

Period : 17th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Metal

Length : 26cm

Height : 29cm

Description

A famous Pisan tradition is the Battle of the Bridge, called Gioco del Ponte, which dates back to the late 16th century and continued into the early 19th century. Even after decades of interruption, it is still held today. Two groups compete for the flag that flies in the center of the bridge spanning the Arno River in Pisa. Both sides are equipped with clubs, targone shields, and armor, the latter being mostly repurposed pieces from earlier periods. Our helmet is a robust 16th-century Italian visor helmet, made from a single piece of skullcap with a collar and bib. The visor was replaced in the 17th century and adapted for this typical tournament by the addition of vertical bars. The front of the helmet is adjustable for easy fitting, and the visor has a small hook that allows it to be raised for better

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visibility. The helmet's interior originally bore the number 139 painted in polychrome, along with a "P" surmounted by a cross. The crown is stamped with an indecipherable gunsmith's mark. Beautiful overall dark patina, without excessive cleaning or recent restorations.