



Large Presentation Buffet, Described As Wood-paneled, With A Double Evolution, Circa 1715.



12 500 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oak

Description

An important solid oak display sideboard, dating from the late Louis XIV to the very beginning of the Regency period, preserved in a remarkable state of authenticity. This monumental piece belongs to the category of grand wood-paneled furniture, whose design is as much about interior architecture as it is about furniture. As typological studies devoted to display sideboards remind us, these pieces were intended to showcase silverware and tableware during meals, left open "more for ostentation than necessity." Architecture: The upper section is crowned by a powerful, arched cornice with a pronounced overhang, highlighted by a row of molded crenellations, a direct legacy of the architectural vocabulary of the end of Louis XIV's reign. The front is punctuated by uprights adorned with

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carved reserves alternating interlaced forms, palmettes, and floral rosettes. The crossbeams feature a decoration of foliate scrolls, florets, corbels, and shells, still structured, framed within strict reserves, demonstrating a balance that remains very much in the 17th century. The composition remains perfectly symmetrical, while the softening of the profiles and panels foreshadows the early years of the Regency period. Opening system: The doors are double-hinged on mortised supports, allowing them to fold completely to the sides. This ingenious device, characteristic of display buffets, transforms the piece into a veritable exhibition space. Interior: The thick shelves, molded with a corbel, are made of solid oak. Two of the three shelves in the upper section are original; the third was remade at some point in the past. The original shelves have a rear rib designed to hold dishes upright, clearly confirming their display function. The upper section also retains its elegant arrangement of four drawers with curved fronts for storing knives. The lower section retains its original shelf. Authenticity: This piece of furniture is unaltered and unreconstructed, retaining all of its original backing and flooring, with period locks in working order. It is in exceptional condition. Dating and Provenance: The piece, with its still-rigid architecture, crenellated cornice, structured sculpted decoration, and measured curves, can be dated to around 1715. It formerly came from a château in Normandy. It exhibits remarkable authenticity for this type of large piece of furniture. Height: 287 cm Width: 174 cm Depth: 75 cm