



Alpine Civilian Dagger - Late 16th Century



2 500 EUR

Period : 16th century

Condition : En l'etat

Description

Probably Switzerland or the Tyrol region, circa 1580-1620. An elegant Renaissance civilian dagger, likely from the Alpine regions (Switzerland or Tyrol), dating from the late 16th century. The long, narrow blade, designed for thrusting, has a lozenge-shaped cross-section characteristic of daggers worn during the rapier era. The ricasso features an engraved decoration of stylized vegetal scrolls belonging to the ornamental vocabulary of the Renaissance. The blade is also adorned with a small, forged, and inlaid gilt metal cross, a symbolic motif sometimes found on civilian weapons of this period, evoking both protection and devotion. The hilt consists of a simple, slightly raised wrought iron guard, typical of late 16th-century Alpine civilian daggers. The handle, made of

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hardwood patinated by time and use, is spirally carved and decorated with small metal studs forming undulating arabesques. This type of studded decoration is a distinctive feature of certain Alpine Renaissance daggers. The tang of the blade runs the entire length of the handle and terminates in a rivet secured by a silver floral rosette, now partially damaged. These civilian daggers were worn on the belt as personal weapons and frequently accompanied the sword or rapier in late Renaissance Europe. Dimensions: Overall length: approximately 40 cm; Blade length: approximately 28 cm