



Sculpture Of Saint Margaret Of Antioch. Southern Netherlands, Flemish, C. 1500.



5 800 EUR

Period : 16th century

Condition : Etat d'usage

Material : Oak

Description

An Oak Sculpture of Saint Margaret of Antioch.
Southern Netherlands, Flemish, c.

1500. Measurements: Height 39 cm; width 20 cm; depth 14 cm. A carved oak statuette representing Saint Margaret, depicted standing with hands clasped in prayer and the winged dragon subdued at her feet. The compact scale and measured pose indicate its use as a personal devotional object or for a small domestic altar, where intimate engagement with the figure's presence would have been the primary focus. The modelling shows a controlled, economical approach to form typical of early sixteenth-century Flemish workshops: the drapery is resolved into a clear textile framework of angular, crisply carved folds that alternate with broader, recessed surfaces to produce a steady modulation of light and shade.

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The hair is worked in flowing, ribbon-like locks, and the facial treatment is restrained and serene--an introspective calm rather than dramatic expression--consonant with Brabantine portrait types of the period. The dragon is reduced to an emblematic companion at the saint's feet, which concentrates the composition on Margaret's spiritual triumph and on contemplative resonance rather than on a theatrical narrative episode. Technically, the statuette combines nuanced modelling in the facial planes and hands with a more robust, economical handling of the gown and lower registers, suggesting a workshop practised in producing small-scale devotional statuary with both delicacy and economy of means. The overall balance of refined detail and disciplined carving aligns the piece with the carving traditions associated with the primary centres of the Southern Netherlands around 1500.