



Art Deco Ceramic And Iron Wall Panel, Depicting A Vestal Virgin, Signed J. Franco & Nefto



2 700 EUR

Signature : J Franco & NEFTO

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Ceramic

Width : 53cm

Height : 78cm

Description

An important and rare Art Deco wall panel combining glazed ceramic and wrought ironwork, forming a complete and striking decorative composition. The piece comprises a figurative design on eight ceramic tiles, set within a period wrought iron frame specifically designed to complement the central scene. This coherence between decoration and structure demonstrates a unified approach, reflecting the spirit of the decorative arts of 1925-1935. The panel depicts a stylized female figure, which can be interpreted as a vestal virgin, draped in a powerful vertical movement, from which motifs evoking fire, lava, or symbolic energy seem to emanate. The graphic treatment--synthetic silhouettes, radiating lines, and a structured composition--is fully in keeping with the aesthetic vocabulary of Art Deco. The

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ceramic is distinguished by its particularly meticulous glazing: thick glazes applied in reserve on a matte background, offering a subtle contrast and a beautiful depth of texture. The palette, dominated by warm tones (ochres, browns, oranges), enhances the intensity of the subject. The wrought-iron frame, also from the Art Deco period, features a simple and balanced design, highlighting the panel without overpowering it. It contributes fully to the perception of the piece as a complete decorative work, intended for integration into a distinctive interior (private mansion, prestigious establishment, architectural space). The panel is signed at the bottom. The inscription "J. Franco" is clearly legible and most likely corresponds to the workshop where it was made. A second, more stylized signature is also present; its meaning remains uncertain, with several possible interpretations (NEFTO, NETTO, NEFFO, NEHO). This signature could correspond to the designer or decorator who created the composition. A supplementary inscription, now partially legible, might suggest a place of production--possibly Marseille--although this interpretation cannot be definitively confirmed. Given its quality of execution, formal coherence, and composite nature (ceramics and ironwork designed together), this piece most likely constitutes a specific commission for a decorator, architect, or private client in the south of France. It is important to note that the entire piece is preserved in its original mounting, perfectly consistent with the decor, and that separating the elements is neither desirable nor recommended, for either aesthetic or heritage reasons. A rare decorative work with a strong visual presence, emblematic of the aesthetic explorations of the interwar period. Dimensions: Total height: 78 cm Total width: 53 cm Visible ceramic section: Height: 56 cm Width: 28 cm Tiles: 8 tiles of 14 × 14 cm. As color rendering is more accurate in video, we can send you a presentation via WhatsApp upon request. If you do not receive a

response, please check your spam folder and
resend your message by email, phone, or SMS.