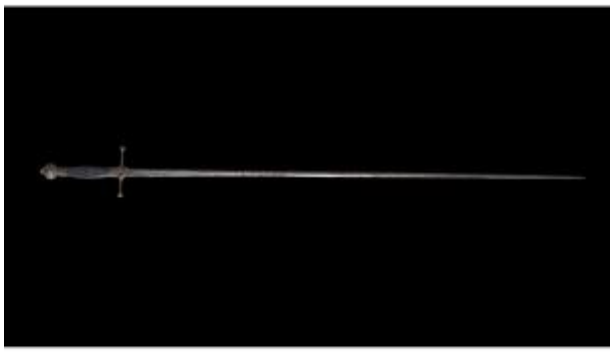
Sword With Blade Inscribed Inri - Maria - Late 16th Or Early 17th Century

1 200 EUR



Period : 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Wrought iron

Length : 105.5

Description

Epée à lame inscrite INRI - MARIA - Fin XVIe ou début XVIIe siècleRemarkable sword of transitional typebetween the late medieval sword and the Renaissance rapier,dating from the late 16th or early 17th century. The blade is long and taperedwith double central groove. The single-cross guard featuresstraight quillons ending in a button, sober and functional, typical of themilitary field swords of the Wars of Religion period. The pommelwrought-iron pommel, massive and well-proportioned, provides effectivecounterweight. The handle retains its original leather covering,This is an exceptional feature for a weapon of this age.The major interest of this piecelies in the devotional inscriptions engraved in the grooves of the bladeINRI (Iesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum) on

Dealer

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one side, MARIA on the other. Thisapotropaic practice, widespread in 16th-century Hispanic and Germanicto place the weapon and its bearer under divine protection.Comparable examples can be found at the Wallace Collection in London and the MuséeMusée de l'Armée in Paris.Good overall condition consideringage: consistent antique patina on all metal parts,inscriptions perfectly legible, handle leather present and period. Itemauthentic, unrestored collector's item.Century 1570-1620Total length: 105.5 cmBlade length: 89 cmHandle length: 16 cmQuillon span: 10 cmAncient Tarn collection.