



Early 19th Century Brooch With Grisaille Painting On Mother-of-pearl

680 EUR



Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Length : 5,5

Description

Elegant navette-shaped brooch featuring a finely painted grisaille scene on mother-of-pearl, depicting children releasing a bird from a cage. The miniature is delicately executed and set within a finely guilloché gold bezel. It is mounted in an openwork silver frame adorned with scrolling motifs and set with seed pearls, characteristic of early 19th century European craftsmanship.

The reverse retains its original pin mechanism with hinge and clasp, in good working order. The mother-of-pearl displays beautiful iridescent reflections on the back.

European work, early 19th century.

Dimensions

Length: 5.5 cm

Condition

Dealer

Galerie dMdB

Carefully selected art of quality and originality

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De Merodelei 275

Turnhout 2300

Good overall condition. Minor wear and slight losses to the painted surface visible under close inspection, not affecting the overall readability of the scene.

Gallery View

This brooch captivates through the quiet poetry of its subject: the release of a bird, a simple gesture imbued with symbolic meaning, evoking both childhood innocence and a broader longing for freedom--an enduring theme in the decorative arts of the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

The grisaille technique on mother-of-pearl enhances this softness. Light subtly reflects beneath the surface, animating the figures with a gentle, almost painterly vibration. These miniature compositions, at the crossroads between jewelry and painting, reflect an intimate refinement intended to be worn close to the body. The silver mount, set with seed pearls, enriches the piece without overwhelming it, while the delicate gold bezel elegantly frames the central scene.

A sensitive and refined object, emblematic of sentimental jewelry in which imagery holds as much importance as material.