



Wrought-iron Mechanism Wax-holder



2 200 EUR

Period : 17th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Wrought iron

Description

Nuremberg (South Germany), circa 1700
Wrought iron and rolled wax
Height: 14 cm
Width: 14 cm
Rare mechanism wax holder, also known as a wax jack, made in wrought iron in South Germany, probably Nuremberg, circa 1700. The object consists of an entirely forged structure resting on three arched legs terminating in balls. A central axis receives a coiled wax cord, the end of which is guided to a pair of articulated jaws forming a flame holder. This ingenious system made it possible to progressively advance the wax as it was consumed. The upper part is formed by a scissor-shaped clamping mechanism whose arms extend into a suspension hook. This characteristic device constitutes one of the most ingenious domestic lighting systems of the late 17th and early 18th centuries. The example retains its old

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wax cord and features two hallmarks struck on the structure, most likely corresponding to a master mark as well as a control or provenance mark. The quality of the forging, the presence of the hallmarks and the remarkable state of preservation of the whole reinforce the interest of this piece. Waxholders of this quality remain rare on the market, particularly when they retain their complete mechanism and old wax. South Germany, probably Nuremberg, circa 1700. ?Provenance: Old European private collection.