



Antique Rococo-style Cast-iron Mantelpiece, France, Circa 1780



2 500 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Cast iron

Width : 122.5

Height : 98

Depth : 28

Description

A sumptuous 18th-century French Rococo mantelpiece made of solid cast iron, adorned with a richly detailed central relief depicting curling foliage, asymmetrical curves, and mischievous putti--all hallmarks of the late Rococo decorative style. Made around 1780, this panel embodies the transition from the exuberant aesthetics of the Louis XV period to the sobriety of the early Louis XVI period, while retaining the movement, sensuality, and theatricality characteristic of Rococo ornamentation. The central panel features three cherubs framed by volutes, acanthus leaves, and a crest motif, all finely molded and remarkably well-preserved. The hinged side panels, rare remnants of this era, lend the object an architectural presence and highlight its primary function: that of an element that is both

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protective and decorative within a large French fireplace. The iron surface bears a deep, uniform patina, the result of centuries of history, which accentuates the sculptural depth of the relief. Sturdy, imposing, and visually striking, this mantelpiece functions equally well as a functional fireplace element or as a decorative wall piece, adding a touch of history to both classic and contemporary interiors.