



PROANTIC

LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Antique 18k Gold Chest Cross With Emeralds And Diamonds. Spain C. 1900-1920



4 350 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Gold

Description

Important and elegant antique pendant cross made in 18 K gold, decorated with diamonds and natural emeralds of magnificent chromatic vividness. This is a piece of great visual balance and extraordinary ornamental harmony, especially attractive because of the luminosity created by the combination between the brilliance of the diamonds, the intense green colour of the emeralds and the warm tone of the gold. The ensemble immediately conveys the sensation of an important, refined and high category jewel, with a clean and highly sophisticated aesthetic reminiscent of the finest antique religious jewellery inspired by Neo-Gothic and Belle Époque styles. Due to its technical characteristics, the type of mounting, the setting work and the general aesthetic of the piece, the cross can

Dealer

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probably be dated circa 1900 to 1920, within the taste of high European devotional jewellery of the early 20th century.

The cross presents a perfectly proportioned composition, with arms finished by elegant lobed ends that provide decorative richness without visually overloading the piece. The design is highly harmonious and balanced, achieving a strong and distinguished presence without losing lightness or elegance. Visually it possesses great luminosity and a refinement rarely found in this type of antique devotional crosses.

At the centre stands an important larger natural emerald, transformed into the true visual nucleus of the composition thanks to the spectacular radial work of antique diamonds surrounding it. From this central point depart the arms of the cross, decorated with lines of carefully aligned natural diamonds that provide continuity, brilliance and a sensation of great refinement throughout the ensemble. The lobed ends incorporate groupings of small natural emeralds that visually reinforce the structure and create a magnificent chromatic contrast between the intense green of the stones and the white luminosity of the diamonds.

The emeralds, a total of thirteen including the central one, present the slight internal variations characteristic of authentic natural gemstones, providing depth, personality and natural beauty to the piece. This number also allows a particularly interesting symbolic interpretation within Christian tradition, the central emerald being understood as a representation of Christ surrounded by the remaining twelve in allusion to the Apostles. This symbolism gives the cross a much deeper devotional dimension and transforms the jewel into something clearly

beyond its material value.

Within Christian tradition, the emerald has historically been associated with hope, life and resurrection because of its intense green colour and its symbolic relationship with spiritual renewal. This connection transforms the piece not only into a jewel of great beauty and quality, but also into an object charged with religious and spiritual meaning.

The natural diamonds are distributed very elegantly around the emeralds and along the cross, providing constant flashes of light without saturating the design. The result is a particularly luminous and refined jewel, with a noble and highly balanced aesthetic that clearly stands out compared to many other antique gemstone crosses that are heavier or visually overloaded. The softer and more elegant brilliance of the antique diamonds further reinforces the historical character and personality of the piece.

The setting work presents a solid and homogeneous execution, clearly handcrafted, with all stones perfectly secured and without signs of movement, losses or visible replacements. The slightly elevated profile allows a better appreciation of the volume of the stones and provides even greater presence when the cross is worn. The upper loop, decorated with engraved motifs, integrates perfectly into the overall design and maintains the same ornamental quality as the rest of the piece.

The reverse preserves an elegant engraved decorative work, simple yet very carefully executed, accompanied by the usual open backs of the settings characteristic of quality antique jewellery. The state of preservation is excellent. It

presents no dents, deformations or losses. All stones are complete and firmly secured in their original mountings.

Visually this is a cross of enormous elegance and category, one of those antique jewels that immediately stand out because of their presence and the quality of their design. Its size, weight and ornamental richness give it an image clearly superior to that of many antique devotional crosses commonly found on the market.

Furthermore, the combination of 18 K gold, antique diamonds and natural emeralds transforms the piece into a solid, noble jewel of important material value, aesthetically very close to European aristocratic religious jewellery of the early 20th century.

Beyond its collectible interest, it remains perfectly usable as a pendant cross or devotional jewel of great category. It is the type of piece usually preserved for generations because of its meaning, presence and quality, frequently associated with important moments in life. A true antique jewel with its own soul, elegant, luminous and difficult to find today in such an attractive state of preservation and with such visual presence.

Measurements: 5.5 x 4 cm (2.17 x 1.57 in).

Weight: 19.2 g. (0.68 oz.)