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## Rare Religious Mantelpiece Plaque Dated 1742 - Ihs Monogram And Sacred Heart



700 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Cast iron

Length : 50 cm

Height : 55 cm

### Description

Rare religious fireplace plaque dated 1742 - IHS monogram and Sacred Heart  
Rare religious cast-iron fireplace plaque dated 1742 - IHS monogram and Sacred Heart  
Rare cast-iron mantelpiece dated 1742, adorned in the center with the Christological monogram "IHS," surmounted by a cross and resting on a radiant heart. This symbol, which is particularly significant in Catholic iconography, represents the monogram of Christ. Popularized notably by the Jesuit Order, IHS is traditionally interpreted as the abbreviation of the name of Jesus in Greek (ΙΗΣΟΥΣ) and associated with the Latin phrase *Jesus Hominum Salvator* ("Jesus, Savior of Mankind"). The presence of the heart beneath the monogram refers to the devotion to the Sacred Heart, which experienced a considerable surge in

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popularity in the 18th century following the revelations of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque. Together, these elements form a powerful symbol of faith and protection. Given its size, its distinctively religious decoration, and its early date, this plaque was likely intended for a rectory, a convent, an abbey, or the home of a family particularly devoted to the Catholic tradition. Religious mantelpieces are much rarer than those bearing coats of arms or purely decorative designs. Today, they serve as valuable testaments to the religious fervor of the Ancien Régime. Dated 1742, this plaque features a clearly defined relief design and remarkable decorative quality. Dimensions: 50 x 55 cm. An authentic 18th-century piece that is at once decorative, historical, and rich in symbolism.