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Francesco Bandini Piccolomini (archbishop Of Siena, 1538-1588) - Cast Bronze Pyx



1 800 EUR

Period : 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Diameter : 8.5

Height : 4

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| Description |
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A precious cast-bronze ciborium bearing the coat of arms of the united Bandini-Piccolomini dynasty. The dynasty began in the early 16th century with the marriage of Sallustio Bandini and Montanina Piccolomini-Todeschini, niece of Pope Pius III, great-niece of Pope Pius II, and great-niece of Pope Paul III on her mother's side. Formally, however, the branch was established in 1505 with the birth of Francesco Bandini Piccolomini, Archbishop of Siena from 1538 to 1588 and founder of the Accademia degli Agevoli. The ciborium is made of cast bronze and was produced from a wooden model. Visible on the bottom is the mark left by the lathe's clamping mechanism on the wooden block; the turning rings are those of the wood, reproduced in the bronze through the casting process. The outer base

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features several concentric rings (these, however, carved) in the full Renaissance style. The lid bears the coat of arms of the dynasty enclosed within a laurel wreath and surmounted by a trefoil cross, indicating the object's liturgical purpose and the family's connection to the Church. In a few minor spots, traces of gilding can be seen, though it has now almost completely disappeared. The condition is excellent. An exceptional historical, artistic, and religious artifact that belonged to an illustrious member of one of the most important dynasties of the time, linked to no fewer than three popes. Dimensions: 8.5 x 4H cm