



émile Gallé C. 1900 - Rare Marine Algae Cameo Glass Vase, Signed



3 000 EUR

Signature : Émile Gallé

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Glass

Diameter : 11

Height : 17

Description

Beautiful Émile Gallé flattened ovoid vase in multilayer glass, decorated with an acid-etched marine motif of red seaweed and underwater forms on a green ground. The vase has a very attractive Art Nouveau presence: the flattened ovoid shape gives it a sculptural silhouette, while the green, amber and reddish tones create a deep aquatic atmosphere. The acid-etched décor reveals seaweed-like forms floating across the surface, giving the piece the poetic "fonds marins" character so closely associated with Gallé's most imaginative marine creations. The vase is signed Gallé. This type of marine and algae decoration belongs to one of Gallé's most fascinating themes. The Musée d'Orsay preserves a comparable Gallé "Vase à décor d'algues", dated 1899-1900, made in two-layer glass with

Dealer

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metallic oxide inclusions and decoration engraved by wheel and acid. The comparison shows the importance of the algae motif in Gallé's artistic vocabulary around 1900. Gallé's interest in underwater life was not only decorative.

According to the Musée d'Orsay, his marine inspiration intensified in the 1890s under the double influence of poetry and science, especially oceanography and the study of marine forms. The museum also notes that Gallé owned Ernst Haeckel's *Kunstformen der Natur*, a key source for Art Nouveau artists interested in natural and microscopic forms. There are also known preparatory works and models connected to this marine vocabulary. The Musée d'Orsay holds a "Modèle de vase en forme de nautilaire et à décor d'algues", executed in pencil, watercolour and ink, showing how Gallé and his workshop developed aquatic motifs through drawings and design models. This does not prove it is the exact model for the present vase, but it confirms the importance of algae and marine forms in Gallé's creative process.

Dimensions: Height: 17 cm Length: 11 cm Condition: Good antique condition, with age-related wear and small signs of use visible in the photos. Please look carefully at the images, as they are part of the description. Museum reference: Comparable piece in the Musée d'Orsay collection: Émile Gallé, Vase à décor d'algues:

<https://www.musee-orsay.fr/fr/oeuvres/vase-decor-dalgues-143513>