



Saxon Left-hand Dagger, Signed Iohannes Willems, Circa 1550-1620

1 400 EUR

Signature : IOHANNES WILLEMS IN SOLINGEN

Period : 17th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Other

Length : 38cm



Description

This left-hand dagger is typical of Saxony. Its style corresponds to the second half of the 16th century or the very early 17th century, but the signature on the blade would seem to indicate that it was made in the first quarter of the 17th century; we will therefore adopt this dating as a precaution. It is an uncommon model, with a guard designed for maneuvers to seize the opponent's blade. BLADE: After a strong 5cm ricasso, it takes on a lozenge-shaped cross-section. On each side, a central fuller running from the shoulder to two-thirds of the blade's length, and two lateral fullers in the first third of the blade. On the external side : In the central fuller + + + IOHANNES + WILLEMS + + + Inside the lateral fuller grooves, a cruciform globe from Solingen On the internal side : In

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the central fuller : X X X ME FECIT IN
SOLINGEN X X X Inside the lateral fullers
Same cruciform globe decoration as on the outer
side A swormaker named Iohannes Willems is
listed by Bezdek as active in Solingen between
1606 and 1630, which would therefore suggest a
fabrication date of at least the first quarter of the
17th century : a date I am adopting out of an
abundance of caution. However, a predecessor of
this maker is also entirely possible, which would
better correspond to the style of workmanship of
the weapon, which seems to date rather to the
second half of the 16th century. Blade length=
24.7 cm; width at the shoulder= 2.4 cm; thickness
at the shoulder= 5.3 mm GUARD: This guard
features a sturdy ring to protect the fingers and
two quillons curved toward the blade and forming
a 45-degree angle with the plane of the blade
This type of guard was designed to block an
opponent's blade by "capturing" it with a wrist
movement The quillons are octagonal and are
chiseled with a small decorative
pattern POMMEL : This is the model with the
so-called "curtain" decoration that was in fashion
during the mid-16th century. It is topped by a
small knob to which the blade tang is
riveted. GRIP : It is divided into four sections by
iron bands, which run from one ferrule to the
other one. Between these iron bars lies the aged,
cracked leather. The ferrules are made of cut iron,
in the Saxon style of the period. This is, therefore,
a beautiful dagger that exudes a sense of power
and sturdiness. It will fit perfectly into a
collection of High Middle Ages weapons. Ref
C-2450 Shipping costs: France EUR30, Europe
EUR40