



Hunters Maritime Trade Powder Bottle



7 500 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Walnut

Length : 26cm

Description

An exceptional powder horn, masterfully carved from a single piece of burl wood and crafted into an elegant horn-shaped form. Its surface features a richly detailed and remarkably narrative design, while a pewter mount reinforces its structure, lending it both durability and refinement in use. The carvings reveal a fascinating iconography, likely of a personal nature. The reverse is dominated by a finely detailed maritime scene, suggesting a strong connection to maritime trade. A raging sea is brought to life by an ancient sailing ship filled with sailors, while in the foreground lies a port or trading post. Emerging from the waves in the distance, a sea creature adds a dreamlike dimension to the composition. The obverse features a striking hunting scene, centered on a spectacular bear

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Walstraat 81A

Vlissingen 4381

hunt. Two hunters, accompanied by a pack of dogs, pursue the animal through a forested landscape. Above, forming a central medallion, a hunting dog rests on a rug, near several game birds and a hunting rifle--an evocative reference to aristocratic hunting culture. The finely carved stopper depicts an animal's head, with eyes inlaid with pewter. The lid is adorned with intricate scrollwork and a charming domestic scene: a house guarded by a sleeping dog. The exact origin of this flask remains uncertain, although it likely comes from Central Europe. The characters' costumes and stylistic elements suggest a date between the late 17th and early 18th centuries, a conclusion supported by the uniform patina of the burl wood and the pewter mounts. A rare and richly decorative object that combines functionality with a captivating narrative, this flask features an almost autobiographical sculptural design. An exceptional and functional work of art.