



Rare Letter Opener With A Carved Corozo Handle--late 19th Century



310 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Corozo

Length : 23,5cm.

Description

Rare letter opener with a carved corozo handle--Late 19th century An elegant and rare antique letter opener featuring a polished bone blade and a handle carved from a corozo nut. The handle is entirely carved in high relief and depicts a grotesque mask, likely an old woman or a witch with a grimacing face. The eyes are brought to life by small white inlays, giving this miniature sculpture a remarkable presence and expressiveness. The work is carved directly from the shell of a corozo nut, whose natural veins have been skillfully incorporated into the composition. This material, also known as "vegetable ivory," was highly prized by sculptors of the late 19th century for its fine grain and remarkable ability to accommodate intricate decoration. Corozo carvings of this quality are

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rare today. While one occasionally comes across bottle stoppers, snuffboxes, or curiosities adorned with fantastical masks, letter openers featuring such a carved handle remain particularly rare. This piece will appeal to collectors of cabinet curiosities as well as to those who collect antique desk accessories or miniature sculptures. An original, decorative, and unusual piece that showcases the craftsmanship of corozo carvers during the Belle Époque. Period: late 19th - early 20th century (circa 1890-1910).
Materials: · Polished bone blade. · Carved corozo (vegetable ivory) handle. · Inlaid eyes.