



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

19th-century Roman Micromosaic Pendant Brooch: "grand Tour" Dog

1 380 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Length : 4,2 cm

Width : 5,3 cm



Description

An exquisite antique brooch-pendant from the mid-19th century, a superb example of the high-quality Roman craftsmanship associated with the historical phenomenon of the Grand Tour. The intricate mosaic is masterfully set within a slab of fine, polished black onyx. Against this deep, dark background, a small Cavalier King Charles Spaniel (or Spaniel) stands out with an extraordinary three-dimensional effect, elegantly resting on a rich red velvet cushion edged and embellished with golden tassels. The mosaic artist's mastery is evident in the millimeter-precise alignment of the microscopic glass tesserae, which render with painterly realism the softness of the fur, the delicate chromatic nuances of the coat, and the chiaroscuro of the cushion's fabric. This specific

Dealer

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piece, a creation of the Vatican workshops (such as those of Antonio Aguatti), was one of the most sought-after and collected luxury souvenirs among the Northern European aristocracy visiting Rome during the 19th century. The precious onyx and micromosaic plaque is encased within a simple yet sturdy case-style setting, crafted in a later period--the 20th century--from 800-fine silver finely gold-plated. The back of the piece is skillfully designed for dual use: it features both a pin with a safety clasp for wearing as a brooch and a hidden loop that allows it to be worn as an elegant necklace pendant. Animal motifs, particularly dogs, were admired above all for their symbolism of loyalty and companionship. Condition as shown in the photos. I'm also on Instagram "Mercantedarteroma"