



Set Of Seven Polychrome Carved Wooden Winged Cherub Heads, 18th Century

2 350 EUR



Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Painted wood

Width : 17-19 cm

Height : 12-15 cm

Description

Description

A set of seven carved and polychrome wooden appliqué elements representing winged cherub heads. In the terminology of antique furniture and architectural decoration, this type of ornament is generally described as a winged cherub head appliqué. Each of the seven pieces differs slightly in composition and expression, giving the group a lively character while preserving a clear decorative unity.

The cherubic faces, modelled with full cheeks and wavy hair, are framed by prominently spreading wings. The lower sections are formed as carved scrolls and curling ornamental motifs, creating a decorative transition between the figures and the surfaces to which they were originally attached. The surviving polychromy

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combines pale flesh tones, brown hair, blue, pink and white details on the wings and collars, together with areas in golden tones emphasizing the scrollwork.

The expressive carving, varied facial features and dynamic arrangement of wings and volutes belong to the decorative vocabulary associated with religious and architectural interiors of the 18th century. The backs have been left largely unpainted, revealing the natural wood, and retain metal fittings intended for hanging or attachment.

Technique and materials

Carved wood worked in relief and finished with polychromy. The elements are carved from relatively substantial pieces of wood, allowing considerable projection to the faces, wings and scrollwork. A significant amount of the old painted decoration survives, although the surface is now irregular and visibly affected by age. The unfinished backs provide a clear view of the wood and the construction of the individual ornaments.

Dating

18th century. The dating is consistent with the late Baroque character of the compositions, the modelling of the faces, the broadly spreading wings and the use of vigorous scrolling ornament combined with expressive polychromy.

Condition

Antique condition with substantial wear to the polychromy, areas of paint loss, flaking, rubbing and small visible losses. Minor losses to the carved material can be observed, particularly on projecting areas such as the wings and outer edges. Age-related marks, surface irregularities and traces of use are present throughout. The photographs provide an accurate record of the present condition of the set.

Function and display

These ornaments were originally intended to be applied to a larger wooden decorative structure. Today, they may be displayed together as wall decoration or incorporated into a collection of antique religious and sculptural objects.

Dimensions

width - 17 to 19 cm

height - 12 to 15 cm