



Antique Japanese Butsudan - Home Buddhist Altar In Black Lacquer And Gold Leaf, Japan



3 250 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Gilted wood

Width : 100

Height : 196

Depth : 72

Description

Antique Japanese butsudan - Domestic Buddhist altar in black lacquer and gold leaf (Japan, circa 1900) A butsudan (literally "house of the Buddha") is a traditional Japanese domestic Buddhist altar: a cabinet with doors that, when opened, reveal the interior of a richly gilded miniature temple. It forms the spiritual heart of the Japanese home, intended for the veneration of the Buddha and the commemoration of deceased ancestors. This type of piece, characterized by deep black lacquer, an abundance of gold leaf, and refined wood carvings, is called *kin-butsudan* (gilded butsudan); it represents the most luxurious and complex variety to produce. Description An imposing and richly decorated butsudan, featuring a glossy black lacquer finish accented with gold leaf and

Dealer

Meels Antiques

fine arts antiques from the 17 ct -20 ct

Tel : 0031 646210007

Akerstraat Noord 116

Hoensbroek 6431 HP

decorative copper or brass trim. The exterior features two lacquered doors fitted with engraved metal hinges and a decorative openwork gilded plate serving as a lock. When opened, the piece reveals a pair of gilded lattice doors, giving way to the magnificent interior of the shrine. The interior is a true masterpiece of craftsmanship: a gilded sanctuary (*kuden*) adorned with high-relief and openwork motifs depicting dragons, phoenixes, cranes, pine trees, and clouds; gilded decorative pendants; tiered altar platforms in red lacquer; and a central statue of a standing Buddha (Amida) with a halo, flanked by two praying monks seated on lotus-shaped thrones. The upper section is adorned with finely carved friezes depicting dragons and pine trees. Meiji period, Japan (circa 1880-1910). An impressive object, imbued with a unique and rare atmosphere, possessing great decorative and spiritual significance: a centerpiece for connoisseurs of Japanese art and religious antiques. Height 196 cm Width 100 cm Depth 72 cm