



Italy, Genoa, 17th Century, Solid Silver Church Lantern

7 500 EUR



Period : 17th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Sterling silver

Description

Impressive church lantern made of solid silver. Genoa, 17th century. Genoa hallmark. A very beautiful piece of Italian religious silverwork from the Louis XV period. This imposing lantern is punctuated by gadroons and fluting and richly decorated with garlands and pendants of ribbon-wrapped floral bouquets as well as finely chiseled foliage. The three large oak leaves, chiseled in high relief, serve as supports for the suspension chains and provide balance to the composition. The openwork, decorative fasteners complete a piece of great finesse in its execution. Due to the quality of its engraving, the richness of its decoration, and the harmony of its proportions, this work of 17th-century Genoese goldsmithing is extremely rare and remarkably well preserved. Please note a few missing pieces.

Dealer

Antiquités Silverware Orfèvrerie

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and minor imperfections (see photo). Unidentified master silversmith's hallmark. Gross weight: 1,750 gr. Total height: 108.5 cm / 42.72 in. Diameter: 22 cm. / 8.66 in. Chain length: 64 cm. / 25.2 in. The main border of the lantern bears an inscription engraved in Roman capital letters (possibly "Frédérico Spinola and Heirs") as well as Roman numerals, the deciphered portion of which reads "FRIDERICI SPINOLÆ." Frédéric Spinola came from a prominent Genoese family; he was a Genoese sailor in the service of Philip II. Born in 1571, he studied at the University of Salamanca with a view to pursue an ecclesiastical career but ultimately enlisted in the army of Flanders commanded by Alexander Farnese. He died on May 26, 1603, during the Battle of the Ecluse (Netherlands). A poem by Francisco de Quevedo is dedicated to him, and the Italian painter Federico Barocci (1535-1612) painted a portrait of him (shown in the ad). Source: Wikipedia