



## Spain, Ca. 1600/1620, 2 Chiseled, Openwork, And Enameled Brass Devotional Pendants

1 700 EUR

Signature : Espagne, vers 1620 / 1630

Period : 17th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Brass

Length : 6,5 et 5,5 cm

Height : 5 cm



### Description

LATE RENAISSANCE JEWELRY, DISPLAY AND DEVOTIONAL OBJECTSSPAIN, circa 1600/1620A pair of two superb brass pieces, richly and finely chased, openworked, and enameled. These small reliquaries were intended to hold, in particular, small painted religious miniatures:\*The first, rectangular and enamelled in white and black, is complete, double-walled frame surrounded by a hanging loop. It depicts two angels holding the handles of a large chalice, with a religious cross. The entire piece is framed by a rich decorative border.\* The other, also rectangular in shape, is a chiseled, openwork brass plate (this is the plate intended to close the devotional frame), as indicated by the four small rectangular notches at the center of each of its four sides) The piece still depicts two cherubs,

### Dealer

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this time kneeling, holding a monogram  
"AM"--certainly for "AVE MARIA"--crowned  
and accompanied by a small figure  
--Jesus?--standing on a flaming heart and holding,  
notably, the (terrestrial) globe surmounted by a  
cross. The decorative pattern of floral arabesques  
is enhanced on the lower portion by 4  
fleurs-de-lis. These medallions, known in Spanish  
as FIRMZAS, were made around 1600-1620 and  
may have been intended to serve as reliquaries. -A  
very similar piece at the Museo de la Historia de  
la Ciudad, dated 1617, is illustrated in the book  
\*La Joyería Española desde Felipe II hasta  
Alfonso XIII\*, published by Los Museos  
Estatales, Madrid, 1988, cat. no. 98, p.  
146. Others are housed at the Louvre Museum  
(OA no. 2971) (photo attached in document), -at  
the Museo Frederic Mares in Barcelona, -at the  
Museo Arqueológico Nacional in Madrid -and at  
the Lázaro Galdiano Foundation in Madrid. A  
very fine gold example also came up for auction  
on July 5, 2022, Sotheby's London, lot  
271. Comparative bibliography P.E. MULLER,  
Jewels in Spain 1500-1800, 1972, pp. 118-120,  
figs. 183-8. Dimensions: 6.5 x 5 cm (thickness 0.5  
mm) and 5.5 x 5 cm. Condition: In very good  
condition, with very rare minor chips in the  
enamel.