



French Belle époque Bronze Cane Holder With Radiating Tubes, Circa 1900



580 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Length : 22

Height : 13.5

Depth : 14

Description

This refined bronze cane holder is a characteristic product of French decorative metalwork in the Belle Époque period. Conceived as a desktop or hall accessory, it comprises a broad, shallow circular base -- its stepped, concentric profile recalling the form of a classical tazza -- from which rise a series of cylindrical bronze tubes arranged in a radiating pattern. Each tube is turned with a gently flared mouth, and together they create a distinctive sunburst silhouette that is as much a sculptural composition as a functional object. The walking stick and cane were essential accessories of bourgeois and aristocratic life at the turn of the 20th century, and the demand for elegant holders in which to display or store them gave rise to a flourishing genre of decorative metalwork. French foundries and bronziers

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produced cane holders in a wide range of styles, from the severely classical to the exuberantly Art Nouveau, and the finest examples -- like this one -- were treated with the same care and craftsmanship as any sculptural object. The warm patina of the bronze, here at its most appealing after over a century of gentle handling, gives the piece a rich, honeyed tone. The compact dimensions -- 22 cm wide and just 13.5 cm tall -- suggest this was intended for use on a writing table, a study desk, or a small entrance console rather than as a freestanding hall piece. It would have held the owner's selection of walking canes, swagger sticks, or riding crops within easy reach, and its pleasing form would have made it a talking point in any well-appointed room. Today it might equally serve as a vessel for pencils, brushes, rolled documents, or simply as a striking decorative object in its own right. A beautifully preserved example of French Belle Époque bronze craftsmanship, with a warm original patina and an engaging design. Dimensions: W. 22 × D. 14 × H. 13.5 cm.