



Cabinet From Uzès With Floral Motifs, Late 17th-early 18th Century



16 800 EUR

Period : 17th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Painted wood

Width : 124 cm

Height : 185 cm

Depth : 58 cm

Description

An Uzès cabinet with a black back and two hinged doors. This wedding cabinet features a lavish decoration of colorful flowers accented by painted frames. These finely rendered bouquets, alternating with other compositions in the small central panels, are reminiscent of 17th- and 18th-century Flemish floral still lifes. The quality of execution, the nature of the composition, the floral species comprising it, and the colors echo the works of Dutch painters such as Ambrosius Bosschaert the Elder, Jan Davidsz de Heem, and Rachel Ruysch. We can identify several species, such as daffodils, poppies, tulips, anemones, and cherry blossoms. This exquisite and harmonious ensemble, with its soft and warm polychromy, stands out against the deep black background. The frame of the cabinet echoes

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this natural theme: flowers and foliage are depicted more discreetly to highlight the decoration on the doors. We can assume that the cabinet is contemporary with the painters who created these floral still lifes and that it is therefore a fine example of the earliest cabinets from Uzès. Indeed, the interior is lined with its beautiful original wallpaper, as are the two drawers with their imposing and irregular dovetail joints. The key and lock are certainly original, and we can see the hammered heads of the nails on the lock. The black back panel and, more specifically, the absence of decoration on the sides of the cabinet are further indications of its age. Later pieces often feature sophisticated decorations, sometimes added at a later date. We also note on the back unfinished panels, consistent with production from the late 17th century to the early 18th century. The simple, unadorned hinges are further evidence. It should be added that this cabinet comes from the estate of a Protestant family in southeastern France and that Uzès cabinets trace their origins to the late 17th century in regions marked by Protestantism. This particularly unadorned piece has not been altered or modified during its long history. It combines impressive, masterfully executed decoration with rare integrity and an age confirmed by numerous features. It is a beautiful example of the very first Uzès cabinets. Dated to the late 17th, early 18th century.