



Rare Pair Of Boxwood Sculptures Depicting The Kongorikishi (nio)



3 000 EUR

Period : 16th century

Condition : En l'etat

Description

Rare Pair of Boxwood Sculptures Depicting the Kongorikishi (Nio) Japan, 16th Century (Late Muromachi / Azuchi-Momoyama Period) Height: 22 cm Detailed photos at the bottom of the report. An extraordinary and rare pair of devotional boxwood sculptures (tsuge) from an early period, depicting the celestial guardians of Esoteric Buddhism, Agyo and Ungyo. Originally intended for a high-ranking private altar, these two figures condense the monumental power and awe-inspiring energy of the protectors of the Dharma into just 22 centimeters. The work stands out for its virtuosic carving of the highest order: the density of the boxwood allowed the artisan to define the complex anatomy of the bodies with surgical precision, the expressionistic drama of the furrowed brows, and the dynamic flow of the

Dealer

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sacred ribbons (tenne), which envelop the figures with exceptional three-dimensional plasticity. The cosmic dualism of beginning and end (expressed by the open and closed mouths) is complemented by a superb, warm, and deep period patina that enhances the volumes and attests to the antiquity and excellent conservation history of the lot. A truly remarkable collecting opportunity for connoisseurs of great Japanese statuary in an elite format. Condition: Excellent, considering the period (16th century). Wear and patina are perfectly consistent with the work's age. The warm brown patina of the wood highlights every single detail, making this pair a perfect example of devotional sculpture and a high-caliber collector's item. A piece of great magnetic charm, ideal for embellishing refined and exclusive interiors, while also serving as an iconic symbol of protection and stability. Condition: Very good, consistent with the period; minor restorations. Light, natural signs of aging that lend the work additional charm and authenticity.