



Trompe l'Oeil Artichoke-shaped Box Made Of Porcelain By Didier Gardillou



450 EUR

Signature : Didier GARDILLOU

Period : 20th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Porcelain

Length : 13 cm

Diameter : 10 cm

Description

Discover the superb creations of Didier Gardillou, an undisputed master of trompe-l'oeil, renowned for his striking realism. Enhance your interior with this magnificent trompe-l'oeil box, a unique piece combining elegance with exceptional craftsmanship. Each of Didier Gardillou's creations is a true work of art, displaying astonishing realism and exquisite refinement. Made entirely of porcelain and meticulously hand-painted. The artichoke is depicted partially open, its outer leaves folding back to reveal a compact central sphere resembling the heart of a cabbage. The outer leaves are gently undulating, with natural edges and flowing curves. Meticulously painted by hand, the decoration combines vibrant green outer leaves with a deep red interior. Delicate red veins

Dealer

LA METAIRIE

French porcelain of 1700 / 1820

Mobile : 00 33 (0)6 68 23 93 30

Evreux 27730

traced against a green and white background further enhance the lifelike effect. Dimensions: Length: 13 cm (5.12 in) - Height: 10 cm (3.94 in). Artist's mark: A blue bell painted by hand, the signature mark of Didier Gardillou. Didier Gardillou's superb trompe-l'oeil boxes embody excellence in contemporary ceramic art, showcasing his remarkable technical skill and artistry. Crafted entirely from porcelain and decorated by hand, these fruit- and vegetable-shaped pieces captivate with their striking realism and meticulous attention to detail. Every feature--from the veins of the leaves to the subtly uneven surfaces and delicate variations of green and white--is reproduced with such precision that the pieces could be mistaken for freshly picked vegetables. These works play with perception, fully embracing the art of visual illusion. Didier Gardillou follows the tradition of illusionistic ceramics that flourished in the eighteenth century, when artists sought to imitate nature in its finest detail. His creations offer a contemporary interpretation, combining classical heritage with an inventive approach that bridges functional objects and sculptural art. Each box is modelled and painted by hand, making every example unique. Both decorative and expressive, these works of art are ideal for displaying on a table, showcasing in a cabinet, or enriching a contemporary art collection. Today, they are highly sought after by collectors and admirers of exceptional design. DIDIER GARDILLOUA

Contemporary Master of Porcelain

Trompe-l'OEil Within the world of contemporary French ceramics, Didier Gardillou holds a distinctive place. His work belongs to the prestigious tradition of porcelain trompe-l'oeil, an art that reached its height in the eighteenth century, when European manufactories competed in virtuosity to reproduce the wonders of the natural world with astonishing realism. An heir to this exceptional technical heritage, the artist renews its spirit, translating historical craftsmanship into a distinctly contemporary

language in which meticulous observation meets poetry, humour and sculpture. His creations go far beyond imitation, becoming works of art that celebrate nature with a deeply personal sensitivity. Each piece is entirely modelled, sculpted and painted by hand. Didier Gardillou masters every stage of the creative process, from shaping the porcelain to applying the final decoration, through the successive firings that give his works their extraordinary presence. His command of the material enables him to reproduce, with remarkable fidelity, textures, volumes, colours and even the natural imperfections of plants, flowers, fruit and pastries. Yet this spectacular realism is never an end in itself. Behind each creation lies a thoughtful exploration of everyday beauty. A simple cabbage, artichoke, lemon, mandarin or flower becomes a timeless sculpture, combining naturalistic precision with a powerful aesthetic appeal. This ability to transform ordinary subjects into works of art is one of the most distinctive qualities of his practice. At the intersection of sculpture, decorative arts and artistic porcelain, his creations occupy a unique place in contemporary ceramics. They encompass objets d'art, decorative sculptures and functional boxes, recapturing the spirit of the great European porcelains of the eighteenth century while appealing to today's collectors. Didier Gardillou's works attract an international clientele of collectors, decorators, interior designers and decorative arts enthusiasts. They find a natural home in private collections, contemporary cabinets of curiosities, prestigious interiors and galleries specialising in contemporary ceramics. His artistic practice contributes to the renewal of French porcelain, demonstrating that the ceramic arts remain a fertile ground for innovation. By combining excellence in traditional techniques with a thoroughly contemporary vision, Didier Gardillou revitalises a historic art form and gives it a new aesthetic dimension. His work reflects a continual pursuit of

perfection, with every detail considered to an exacting standard. Subtle surface effects, carefully judged colours, exceptional modelling and precise painting lend each creation an almost uncanny presence, suspended between illusion and reality. Today, Didier Gardillou is regarded as one of the most accomplished exponents of contemporary porcelain trompe-l'oeil. His work contributes to the international recognition of French ceramics among audiences who value exceptional craftsmanship, contemporary creativity and aesthetic expression. Each creation is a unique piece in which technical virtuosity, poetry and timelessness come together, establishing his work as a leading reference in contemporary trompe-l'oeil.

His Career With a natural aptitude for the visual arts, Didier Gardillou found his direction during a visit to the Musée Adrien Dubouché, which decisively turned his attention towards the ceramic arts.

1972-1977: Studied at the ENAD in Limoges under Jean-Jacques Prolongeau. He became Prolongeau's pupil and studio collaborator, participating in architectural commissions under France's "1% for Art" scheme and producing ceramic forms in stoneware and earthenware, as well as painted porcelain.

1979: Award winner of the Chambre Syndicale des Céramistes et Ateliers d'Art de France. Received first prize at the Salon des Ateliers d'Art for the body of work exhibited, comprising biscuit porcelain sculptures and glazed porcelain decorated with low-fire enamels.

1981: Exhibited at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris in *La Céramique française contemporaine, sources et courants*, presenting porcelain and trompe-l'oeil decoration.

1982: Works purchased by the French Presidency for Denmark and Spain, including a cabbage tureen and other shaped pieces.

1983: Awarded the Gold Medal at the Foire de Paris and first prize in the creativity competition at the Salon des Artisans d'Art for a sculpture comprising nine elements. Exhibited in Tokyo in partnership with Printemps, Ateliers d'Art de France, Air France

and the Paris Chamber of Commerce. Early
1990s: His former teacher, Jean-Jacques
Prolongeau, joined him in his studio to
collaborate on porcelain decoration, including
vases and bowls. His work is on permanent
exhibition in Gstaad. His creations are held in
private collections in France, Switzerland, the
United States, Japan, the United Kingdom,
Belgium, Spain and Italy, among other countries,
as well as in public museum collections in Sèvres
and London. Passionate about nature, flowers, and
both antique and contemporary ceramics, he
draws inspiration from illusionistic ceramics,
inviting us to dream through his trompe-l'oeil
creations. His magnificent flowers and floral
arrangements.