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Carved And Gilded Wooden Architectural Frame - 18th Century



7 500 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Gilded wood

Width : cm. 91

Height : cm. 102,5

Depth : cm. 17,5

Description

Carved and Gilded Wooden Architectural Aedicule - 18th century A rare and important architectural piece in the form of an arched aedicule, created in the 18th century. This exceptional and sumptuous piece represents a pinnacle of 18th-century Italian decorative wood carving. The work commands attention in any space thanks to its rigorous yet vibrant architecture, dominated by an exceptional carving depth of 17.5 cm, which creates a superb interplay of light and shadow when illuminated. The upper section is crowned by a sumptuous projecting entablature, enriched by a refined continuous frieze molding featuring ovule and dart motifs--a classic expression of Baroque architectural rigor. This impressive cornice is supported by two majestic corner pilasters that

Dealer

Anna Delmonte Antichità

ANTIQUES fornitures

Tel : +39 3384989679

Vico Castello, 4

Imperia 18100

feature no fewer than four splendid busts of cherubs (or putti) sculpted in the round. Arranged in symmetrical pairs that turn with sculptural grace both on the front and on the outer sides of the work, the children's faces display aristocratic features and a commendable finesse of execution. The sculptures interact with sumptuous curled volutes and cartouche elements, fading downward into a lush cascade of Bernini-style acanthus leaves that frames the solemn central light with its arched opening with theatrical grace. The base, of extraordinary formal solidity, rests on a tripartite molded plinth: dominating the center is a magnificent circular rose window pierced with floral motifs, flanked symmetrically by two geometric panels embellished with smaller rose windows carved in relief, sealing a perfectly symmetrical design.

Structural Features and Intended Use

The original complete absence of an internal rebate on the back serves as a valuable technical indicator for the most discerning connoisseurs: it rules out the possibility that the piece originated as a common picture frame, elevating it to a monumental, independent, and self-supporting structure. The piece was, in fact, conceived as a sumptuous, scenic, and monumental focal point, designed to ennoble a decorative niche, house reliquaries of extraordinary importance, or serve as the façade for a private tabernacle in a noble palace or a high-ranking ecclesiastical setting. The back reveals the authentic spirit and construction mastery of the 18th century, displaying the large, joined solid wood planks and the imposing structural wrought-iron brackets--hand-nailed--in their original, intact state.

Impressive Dimensions:* Maximum dimensions: 102.5 cm (height) x 91 cm (width)* Thickness / Depth: 17.5 cm* Internal arch opening: 27.5 cm (width at the base) x 59 cm (height)* Type: Monumental architectural aedicule front for a high-prestige niche, tabernacle, or princely devotional shrine* Period and Style: Superb Barocchetto / Late

Baroque (18th-century Italian)

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