Christofle 1935-40, Art Deco Coffee And Tea Set, Luc Lanel, Silver-plated Metal



725 EUR

Signature : Luc Lanel

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Silver metal

Description

Art Deco tea and coffee set --
Christofle-Alfénide, attributed to Luc Lanel, circa 1935-1940Four-piece silver-plated tea and coffee set, consisting of a coffee pot, a teapot, a lidded sugar bowl, and a milk jug, adorned with handles and side knobs made of exotic wood.The bodies feature a silhouette with rounded volumes at the base, tapering gradually toward the opening. A wide band of closely spaced horizontal grooves accentuates the body of each piece and contrasts with the smooth, polished surfaces. This motif is repeated on the cylindrical knobs of the lids, which are entirely grooved, lending the set a remarkable sense of unity.The handles, crafted from dark exotic wood, combine an angular upper section with a sweeping outer curve. Their geometric silver-plated metal fittings emphasize

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the precision of the design, while the contrast between the wood and the glossy surfaces fully contributes to the Art Deco aesthetic. The sugar bowl echoes this composition with two symmetrical side handles.The balanced proportions, the understated forms, and the rhythm of the horizontal bands bring this set close to Luc Lanel's designs for Christofle, particularly the aesthetic of the Ondulations series. The attribution to Luc Lanel is based on the expert appraisal of a set of the same model conducted for a public auction by Claire Badillet, an expert and member of the National Chamber of Specialized Experts. Her appraisal also notes the ribbed decoration repeated on the handles.The ALFENIDE mark, stamped on the underside of the pieces, is an integral part of Christofle's history. Originating from the company founded in Paris in 1850 by brothers Charles and Maurice Halphen, it takes its name from a white alloy used as a base for silver plating. After a collaboration that began in the 1850s, Christofle acquired the company in its entirety in 1888 and retained the name Alfénide for part of its production. This service set is therefore an authentic product of the Christofle house, marketed under its Alfénide brand.The hallmark shown in the photograph combines the signature "ALFENIDE," the manufacturer's goat's head hallmark, the number 801, and the chess knight framed by the letters "OC," standing for Orfèvrerie Christofle. The introduction of this last hallmark in 1935, combined with the stylistic characteristics of the set, suggests a date of manufacture around 1935-1940.This set exemplifies the elegance of French silverwork from the 1930s, where the design arises from the interplay of materials, the purity of the lines, and the measured repetition of the reliefs.