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Wall-mounted Virgin - Processional Cross - Gilded Bronze - Gothic Art - High Gothic Period



380 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Description

15th-century France - Gothic periodAn interesting gilded bronze wall-mounted Virgin, cast as a hollow piece, originating from a 15th-century processional cross.The Virgin is depicted standing, facing the viewer, wearing a crown with fleurons resting on a veil that frames her face. Her features, rendered with a certain naivety, include almond-shaped eyes, a prominent nose, and a mouth forming a slight smile.The figure is distinguished by its elongated proportions and the particularly expressive rendering of her clothing. The cloak, with its deeply marked folds, completely envelops the body and is arranged in long vertical lines, interrupted by a succession of diagonal drapes at the level of the left arm.The Virgin rests on a small, molded semicircular console, topped by a

Dealer

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Maussane-les-Alpilles 13520

turned knob, which emphasizes the verticality of the composition.The bronze retains significant traces of its original gilding, particularly visible on the protruding parts of the face, the crown, and the clothing. The recesses feature a dark brown patina, accentuating the relief of the drapery and the details of the sculpture.The reverse side, entirely hollowed out, indicates that the figure was cast using the lost-wax method. Two mounting tenons remain on the back, which were originally used to attach the figure to the structure of a processional cross.A circular perforation, visible on the upper part of the body, likely corresponds to a former mounting device or the location of an added element that is now missing.Processional crosses played an essential role in medieval liturgy. Carried during religious ceremonies, processions, and solemn processions of the clergy, they were frequently adorned with applied figures representing Christ, the Virgin Mary, Saint John, or the symbols of the Evangelists.The Virgin Mary was notably depicted on the reverse side of certain crosses, serving as a counterpart to the figure of the crucified Christ placed on the front.With its stylized treatment, the unique expression on her face, and the movement of her drapery, this small sculpture offers an interesting insight into the production of religious bronzes in the late Middle Ages.Condition: In good overall condition. Original gilding partially preserved, showing signs of wear and a dark patina in the recesses. Circular perforation on the upper part of the body. Two mounting tenons preserved on the reverse. Signs of use and age.Dimensions: Height: 12.5 cmALL SHIPMENTS ARE MADE EXCLUSIVELY VIA DHL EXPRESS.