15th-century Messenger's Case



4 000 EUR

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Wrought iron

Length : 23,3cm

Width : 16,4cm

Height : 11,3cm

Description

A superb and rare wrought-iron messenger's chest with openwork detailing on an oak core. France, dating from the Flamboyant Gothic period.Structure and Metalwork:The chest features a slightly barrel-vaulted lid. The wrought-iron structure is entirely covered with an openwork lattice featuring orb-and-track motifs that echo the architectural elements of the Flamboyant Gothic style (window openings, lancets, and pointed arches). This makes it a rare find. The iron bands are secured with forged nails to an oak core.Front and Locking Mechanism:The front features a double-bolt lock with a mechanism.The right pilaster pivots to reveal a small spring-loaded latch that unlocks the right bolt, exposing the keyhole and allowing the chest to be opened.The lock is functional, but the key is

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missing.Interior:The interior retains its hand-assembled wooden frame, bearing the rough marks of period tools. A particularly noteworthy feature for an object of this era: inside, the lid still partially retains its original canvas lining.On the exterior, the velvet trim encased beneath the metalwork displays a patina attesting to its authenticity.Notes: This type of case was historically used for the secure transport of dispatches, seals, letters, or precious objects by messengers on horseback.