PROANTIC
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Kanthara Cup With Six Masks, Facsimile From The Hildesheim Treasure



880 EUR

Signature : Attr a WMF

Period : 19th century

Condition : Etat d'usage

Width : aux anses 19cm

Height : aux anse 10.3 cm

Description

Kanthara cup with six masks from the Hildesheim Treasure. Attributed to the WMF factory (Württembergische Metallwarenfabrik, Geislingen), a beautiful copper electrotype with a double patina, silver-plated and partially gilded.Facsimile of the famous "kanthara with six masks" " from the 1st-century CE Roman gold and silver treasure discovered in Hildesheim in 1868 and housed at the Altes Museum in Berlin.The cup rests on a circular pedestal with radiating gadroons and a beaded collar. The hemispherical bowl, with a rim accented by fine molded fillets and a smooth interior, is flanked by two coiled and upturned side handles, finely chiseled in the shape of protomes of winged, horned lions; the body features a rich Dionysian decoration in high relief consisting of six Bacchic

Dealer

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theatrical masks (bearded Silenus figures, satyrs, and Maenads) alternating with ritual attributes in low relief: ribbon-wrapped thyrses, syrinx (Pan's flutes), and pedums (shepherd's staffs). The lower part of the basin is adorned with two large, reclining lion figures, whose finely engraved fur is highlighted with gilding, creating a polychromatic contrast with the rest of the silver-plated piece.In very good condition. The piece features a beautiful, uniform patina and slight signs of age (minimal localized wear on the silver plating revealing the copper beneath the rim of the pedestal and on certain protrusions of the reliefs, as well as a few discreet micro-indentations on theinside of the basin), without any impairment to the fineness of the chiseling or the structure; an unsigned specimen on the base, characteristic of the scientific and museum editions produced by the electroplating department of the German manufacturer WMF based on the official casts from Berlin's museums; an identical copy in every respect--both in terms of its electroplating technique featuring a dual silver and gold patina and its exact dimensions and lack of a signature--is held in German public collections at Hessen Kassel Heritage (Museumslandschaft Hessen Kassel, Germany, dated circa 1915,inventory no. N 149).