PROANTIC
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Copenhagen, 1787, Solid Silver, Pair Of Louis XVI Fabritius Spurs



1 150 EUR

Signature : Fabritius

Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Sterling silver

Length : 12,5 cm

Width : 8,5 cm

Description

Rare pair of neoclassical solid silver spurs - Copenhagen, 1787A rare and elegant pair of solid silver spurs of Danish origin, dating from the late 18th century, during the reign of King Christian VII of Denmark (1766-1808).Their refined silhouette and delicate engraved decoration fit perfectly within the neoclassical ornamental repertoire that characterized European silverwork in the final decades of the 18th century. The quality of their craftsmanship attests to the care taken in creating equestrian accessories intended for an aristocratic or high-ranking military clientele.Inside the spurs is the name of their first owner, engraved as "I. H. SMEDT. '87." This inscription, contemporary with their manufacture, is notable for bearing the same date as the Copenhagen hallmark.Beyond their equestrian

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Essene-kerkplein 5b
Affligem 1790

function, silver spurs were true status symbols. Associated with the nobility, the cavalry, and military officers, they played a key role in the elegance of their owners' attire.The HallmarksThis pair bears three hallmarks characteristic of Copenhagen's traditional silversmithing:The Copenhagen city hallmark, depicting three towers accompanied by the numbers 87 for the year 1787.The hallmark of the assayer Frederik Fabritius.The zodiac hallmark for Gemini.Copenhagen silverware has the remarkable distinction of bearing, in addition to the hallmark indicating the year, a hallmark representing one of the twelve signs of the zodiac. This inspection system, which was discontinued in 1830, allows for exceptionally precise dating of Danish silverware.The sign of Gemini indicates that our spurs were submitted for inspection between approximately May 21 and June 21, 1787.Frederik Fabritius (1740-1829)Born in Copenhagen in 1740, Frederik Fabritius belonged to a prominent Danish dynasty of goldsmiths and jewelers. He spent time in Paris, London, and Berlin to hone his professional skills and study precious metal hallmarking techniques.He was certified as a master goldsmith in 1771 and became jeweler to the Royal Court of Denmark in 1778. In 1787, he succeeded his father, Christopher Fabritius, as Copenhagen's official assayer, a position he held until 1823.Our pair of spurs was therefore hallmarked during the early months of his tenure.This family's significance in the history of Danish silversmithing is such that silverware bearing the hallmarks of the Fabritius assayers is traditionally referred to in Denmark as "Fabritiussølv."A Particularly Rare TypePairs of 18th-century solid silver spurs are relatively rare on the art market. Their utilitarian nature, the constraints associated with their use, and the intrinsic value of the metal partly explain the limited number of examples that have survived to the present day.By way of comparison, a pair of solid silver spurs made in Liège in 1793-1794

sold at Christie's in Paris on April 20, 2023, for 5,040 euros.Our pair is a remarkable example of Scandinavian neoclassical silversmithing and the elegance of equestrian accessories on the eve of the French Revolution.Origin: Copenhagen, Denmark.Date: May-June 1787.Material: solid silver.Bibliography:Chr. A. Bøje, Danske guld- og sølvsmedemærker før 1870.Fabritius - Sølv og Guld, 1958.