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Anatomical And Devotional Bust Of Christ Crowned With Thorns, 17th-18th Century



1 350 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Wax

Description

Anatomical and devotional bust of Christ crowned with thorns, with an opening flap, made of polychrome wax; Southern Italy, 17th-18th centuryDescription: A rare and evocative sculpture in modeled, polychrome wax that occupies a hybrid space between Baroque devotional art,vanitas, and elements of the Wunderkammer: a bust of the suffering Christ, with a crown of thorns applied in relief, which conceals beneath a hinged chest panel an internal anatomical depiction--a rib cage and heart in red wax, and viscera modeled and painted in warm, earthy tones.The bowed, sorrowful face, framed by a beard and flowing hair rendered in brown wax, bears traces of blood on the forehead and cheeks, while the bust shows drips, signs of wounds (including the dark panel with droplets

Dealer

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on the closed chest), and cavities/grafts on the back. Straddling a meditation on the Passion, anatomical curiosity, and the wax artistry of southern Italy between the 17th and 18th centuries, it is a work of great fascination for collectors of Wunderkammer, anatomical objects and historical curiosities, wax art, and devotional art.The artifact is in a fragmentary and well-worn condition, consistent with its age and the delicacy of the wax: missing sections on the lower part and shoulders, wear, period patina, microcracks, dust residue or surface deposits, and minor loss of polychromy, all well documented in the images. An unusual piece with a distinctive character for collectors of Wunderkammer and wax sculpture.Technical SpecificationsPeriod: 17th-18th centuriesProvenance / Region: Southern ItalyMaterial: modeled and polychrome waxDimensions: height 12.5 cmCondition: fragmentary, with missing parts, wear, patina, and signs of use consistent with the period (as shown in photographs)