



Joseph Et Marie: Couple Of Neapolitan Crib Characters, 18th,



1 800 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Painted wood

Height : 28 cm

Description

This pair of Neapolitan nativity figures, depicting Joseph and Mary, dates from the 18th century.

The heads are crafted in terracotta with glass eyes, while the hands and legs are carved from wood, reflecting the exceptional craftsmanship typical of Neapolitan art of this period. The costumes, restored using antique fabrics, enhance the refinement and elegance of these figures.

Neapolitan nativity scenes, known as Presepi, became highly popular from the 17th century onwards. They are renowned for their meticulous attention to detail and lifelike expressiveness. Each figure is unique, often depicting a range of social classes and professions from daily life. The terracotta heads, hand-painted with delicate expressions, and the glass eyes add a striking

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realism. These scenes were frequently commissioned by the aristocracy and wealthy bourgeoisie, serving as a testament to both religious devotion and social status.

Standing at 28 cm high, this couple is a fine example of Neapolitan nativity art, combining exquisite detailing and high-quality materials to create figures full of life and character.

- o Period: 18th century
- o Origin: Naples, Italy
- o Materials: Terracotta heads, glass eyes, wooden hands and legs
- o Dimensions: Height 28 cm
- o Condition: Good overall condition, costume restorations using antique fabrics

A rare and valuable set, ideal for collectors of religious art and Neapolitan folk art, or as a beautiful addition to any collection of historical nativity figures.