



Earthenware Pitcher - Lille, 18th Century - Mythological Scene: Venus At Her Bath - 1740-1760



990 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Restauré

Material : Earthenware

Height : 22 cm

Description

A rare Louis XV period baluster-shaped pitcher in fine Lille earthenware, decorated with a polychrome historical scene depicting Venus bathing, accompanied by a putto in a lakeside landscape, framed by rocaille scrolls in blue, yellow, and manganese. This type of mythological decoration is extremely rare in Lille's production, floral motifs and lambrequins were usually the dominant style. This is a high-level commissioned piece, intended for an aristocratic or cultured clientele. The quality of execution is remarkable: freehand painting, The modeling of the flesh, the depth of the landscape, and the palette typical of the great 18th-century Lille style are all noteworthy. The spout is adorned with a rare architectural design of blue crosshatching framed by yellow lambrequins, a

Dealer

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motif directly inspired by 18th-century tapestries and damasks, found only on high-quality pieces. The floral decoration is exceptionally rich for Lille faience. It comprises four distinct bouquets, painted separately and not as a frieze, which is characteristic of commissioned pieces. Anemones, tulips, carnations, and small roses are among the flowers depicted, accompanied by vibrant foliage and bluish secondary blooms, in a fresh palette typical of the 1740s-1760s. These bouquets, rendered with delicate naturalism, directly reflect the influence of Flemish botanical models and the flower collections then used in Lille workshops. The foot and the base of the body are embellished with delicate flowering twigs and foliage, painted with great lightness, creating an elegant transition between the mythological scene and the shape of the vase--a decorative refinement found only in the finest Lille pottery. The shape--bulging body, ring foot, narrow neck, and trilobed spout--is characteristic of Lille pottery from around the mid-18th century. Height: 22 cm Condition: Old repair to the neck, located near the handle, discreet and well integrated, without affecting the clarity of the decoration or the stability of the piece. Minor chips from use. A rare work due to its iconography, pictorial level and regional provenance.