



Group Of Four Azulejos, Tiles, Renaissance Ceramics



550 EUR

Period : 16th century

Condition : Bon état avec

Material : Ceramic

Length : 29,5 cm avec le cadre ou 13,5 cm chaque carreaux

Width : 29,5 cm avec le cadre ou 13,5 cm chaque carreaux

Description

Four ceramic arista tiles made in Seville in the first third of the 16th century, 13 x 13 cm. each. Painted in cobalt blue, brown, green and honey-coloured mineral glazes on a white ground, their rhythmic Renaissance design includes flowers composed of acanthus leaves.

Given their square format, these tiles originally formed part of the sort of tiled wainscoting for which the patios and interiors of Andalusian buildings are renowned. Similar tiles were used in many early sixteenth-century Spanish palaces, churches, convents and monasteries that survive to this day, e.g. the Casa de los Pilatos in Seville, commenced in 1492 but entirely remodelled by the first Marquess of Tarifa from 1520 - 1539. The walls of this spectacular palace are tiled from

Dealer

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floor to ceiling.

While the taste for tiled walls in Spain dates from the medieval Muslim period (witness the celebrated hand-cut mosaic wall panels of the Alhambra in Granada and the Royal Alcázar of Seville), in the early 16th century a new method enabled potters to turn out polychrome tiles in quantity. These tiles are a fine example of the important Spanish technical contribution to the history of ceramics known as *cuenca* or *arista*, in which the lines that separate colour sections are raised, reflecting the impression of wood or fired biscuit moulds on damp clay. *Arista* swept Seville in the early 16th century, permitting rapid, large-scale production; exports abroad (many such tiles are found in English and Italian churches, as well as in the New World); and extensive tile use at home.

References:

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- * Sancho Corbacho, Antonio. *La cerámica andaluza. Azulejos sevillanos del siglo XVI, de cuenca - Casa de Pilatos*. Seville, 1953.