

SA1187701

18th Century Continental
Silver-Hilted Smallsword, Later
Period Conversion to a Short
Sword/Dagger.

France or Franco-Italian,
originally circa 1750–1775;
period conversion circa

~~GBP 950~~
GBP 1020.

| USD \$1,286 | EUR 1,112

Item Reference: SA1187701

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Description

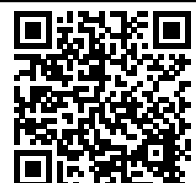
A fine and historically interesting continental smallsword, originally dating to the mid-18th century, later shortened and reduced in period to form a compact short sword or hanger. The piece retains its original silver-mounted hilt and silver wire-bound grip, and represents a genuine late 18th-century adaptation rather than later alteration. Description The hilt is of elegant Rococo character, comprising an urn-shaped faceted pommel of solid silver, a solid silver grip, and a finely worked guard with knuckle bow and dished shell. The grip is tightly bound with finely twisted original silver wire, laid in a continuous chevron pattern over a wooden core, showing even compression and wear consistent with age and long use. The guard was originally of double-shell smallsword form. One shell has been removed and the quillon and knuckle bow subtly reduced, the work displaying softened edges, uniform patina, and careful finishing throughout, all consistent with late 18th- or early 19th-century reworking. The remaining shell is deeply dished with flowing Rococo scroll outlines. The blade has been shortened and re-profiled in period, almost certainly from a longer smallsword blade...

Internal Ref: 12671

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