

SA1190653

Exceptional Early 17th Century Spanish Walnut Vargueno Desk on Stand

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1190653****Date of manufacture: 17th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 142 cm (55.9")

Width = 104 cm (40.9")

Depth = 46 cm (18.1")

Description

An exceptionally fine example of an early 17th Century Spanish renaissance walnut vargueno / bargueno escritorio writing desk on trestle stand. Spain, Salamanca circa 1600-1630. This wonderful vargueno is one of the finest we have seen retaining its original cut velvet, gilt iron metal work and key, housed on an early 19th century trestle stand possibly having earlier elements. The vargueno or bargueno is so called because it was thought to have originated in the village of Bargas in the province of Toledo. It is the earliest form of a writing desk known and was conceived to show the expertise of the Spanish craftsman having such an opulent carved and gilded interior. Spain's outstanding contribution to the development of European furniture is this cabinet. Although extremely heavy they were used as a travelling desk within the Spanish global empire and were highly prized as an object of status within the Spanish Courts. The rectangular walnut cabinet, constructed with fine cuts of dense walnut, having a fall front with velvet-lined pierced and gilt wrought-iron handles, hinges and an elaborate lock and hasp, enclosing a fitted interior with an arrangement of drawer...

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Seller Details

Loveday Antiques

Benington Hertfordshire United Kingdom

Tel: 01438 869819

International Tel: +44 1438 869819

