

SA1212766

Collection of Four 18th/19th Century Italian Cast Brass & Bronze 'Lucerna' Oil Lamps

Price

GBP 360

| USD \$487 | EUR 421

Item Reference: SA1212766

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Description

A rare and evocative collection of antique Italian cast metal oil lamps, known as Lucerna, offering a raw and authentic glimpse into European domestic history. These cast brass and bronze lamps remain in their original, unrestored condition, boasting a rich, naturally aged patina. Traditionally used from the Renaissance through to the 19th century, these lamps were designed to burn oil or grease. Each piece features a functional curved arm and pointed iron or brass spike, allowing the lamp to be suspended from a wooden beam or wedged directly into masonry cracks. Three of the pans appear to be brass, while one has the deeper, resonant "ring" more typical of bronze. The hanging hardware are a mix of iron and brass, and a couple of hooks and short chain links, connecting the curved arm to the slender spiked arm, may be historical replacements, consistent with long domestic use. A quintessential example of Italian folk art (similar in function to the "Betty Lamp" found in the UK), these pieces were the backbone of Mediterranean household lighting for centuries and are perfect for collectors of primitive lighting or rustic Continental decor.

Seller Details

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