

SA1226648

An Extremely Rare Italian late 18th C Bronze Locking Vessel With Latin Inscription, Possibly with Maritime Associations.

Price

GBP 3,950

| USD \$5,335 | EUR 4,620

Item Reference: SA1226648

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 46 cm (18.1")

Width = 46 cm (18.1")

Depth = 36 cm (14.2")

Description

An Extremely Italian Rare Bronze Locking Vessel With Latin Inscription, Possibly with Maritime Associations. Italy circa 1780-1820 This very unusual bronze receptacle that it was designed to be fixed to a surface which we have now sat upon a stone plinth for display purposes. The sides are cast with acanthus swags and other floral decoration with swags of husks joining the two handles, themselves formed from laurel wreaths. The cover is simpler in decoration with an egg and dart moulding and a finely cast acorn finial. There is a Latin inscription in two parts on the body of the piece, the inscription reading Contra biformis fortunae eventus on one side and uniformi constantia integerrime militavit on the other side and also on the base. Depending on how the inscription is combined, the full text reads either "contra biformis fortunae eventus uniformi constantia integerrime militavit" or "uniformi constantia integerrime militavit contra biformis fortunae eventus" and the text is said to be related to the works of the 12th century French theologian Hildebert de Lavardin and the poet Mathieu de Vendome. It also relates closely to a quotation attributed to Pope Gregory I "Q...

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Seller Details

Loveday Antiques

Benington Hertfordshire United Kingdom

Tel: 01438 869819

International Tel: +44 1438 869819

