

SA297236

C19th carved "Black Forest" study of the 'Lion of Luzern'

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA297236****Date of manufacture: 1870**

Description

C19th carved "Black Forest" study of the 'Lion of Luzern'. A 'Grand Tour' souvenir carved in linden wood (lime), based upon the stone lion monument in Luzern , Switzerland. The memorial is dedicated to the memory of the Swiss Guard who were massacred in 1792 whilst protecting the French Royal Family in the Tuileries Palace, Paris, during the Revolution on August 10th. The inscription along the base translates as "To the loyalty and bravery of the Swiss" and taken from the original massive stone monument. The mortally wounded lion is shown impaled by a spear ,covering a shield bearing the 'fleur de lys' of the French monarchy,whilst beside him is a shield bearing the Swiss coat-of-arms. The monument designed by the Danish sculptor Bertel Thorvaldesen ,was hewn in 1820-21 by Lukas Ahorn in a disused sandstone quarry near Lucerne (see photo below). Faded ,dry, pale patina ,with evidence of extinct wood-worm to reverse. W 11" x D 4 " x H 5". Switzerland c.1870

Internal Ref: MLTH 148

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