

An Exceptional, Late-Renaissance, Nuremberg, Iron, 'Armada Box', Strongbox Or Travelling Safe With Ducal Coronet & Original, Naïve, Painted Decoration On Later Sledge Feet

£14,000



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REF: 11936

Height: 53 cm (20.9")

Width: 81 cm (31.9")

Depth: 45 cm (17.7")

Weight: 60 kg

Description

- This is a rare, highly original example of these characterful, early models of transportable safes.
- The escutcheon unusually bears a ducal coronet demonstrating that it was made for the nobility.
- The characteristic floral and landscape vignettes are a charming feature of these strongboxes.
- The painting on this strongbox has survived in exceptional condition, particularly the sides indicating that the strongbox has not been moved around much.
- The lock mechanism is in working order so this strongbox can still perform its original function.
- It has an unusual chased lockplate featuring pairs of dogs and mermen. There is a chased leaf border around the edge of the inner lid which I have never seen before.
- As well as money, gold and jewellery, documents and private papers are recorded as being kept in strong boxes, which were also used to safeguard items of personal value.
- Can be used as a safe, for storage or as a coffee/sofa table

Provenance : private collection Belgium