

Pair of 17th century cherubs converted to lights

£1,250



REF: 6783

Height: 40 cm (15.7")

Width: 25 cm (9.8")

Depth: 16 cm (6.3")

Description

A remarkable pair of late 17th century Flemish polychrome painted and gilt cherub wall sconces later converted to electric lights, circa 1680. Both in good condition for their age with some loss of gilt gesso to one leg as shown in the images.

The cherubs are currently wired with brown fabric twisted flex and fitted with a 13 amp plug. PAT tested.

Seventeenth-century Flemish polychrome carvings are remarkable examples of Baroque artistry, combining intricate woodcarving with vibrant colour and gilding. Created primarily for religious settings, these sculptures portrayed saints, biblical scenes, and devotional figures with dramatic expressions and lifelike details.

Artisans skilfully applied layers of paint and gold leaf to enhance realism and spiritual impact. The carvings often adorned altarpieces and church interiors, reflecting the Catholic Church's emphasis on emotional engagement during the Counter-Reformation. Masters like Artus Quellinus the Elder influenced this style, merging Italian and Northern European elements. These works remain treasured for their craftsmanship, vivid storytelling, and spiritual resonance.