



**Private devotional reliquary**

Silver and blackened wood

Unmarked

Augsburg, circa 1740

D : 20,2 x 12 cm

The reliquary in the form of a wardrobe houses a relic of the true Cross and another of the Virgin's veil.  
At the bottom, a drawer is decorated with two small removable candlesticks. On the reverse, a compartment with a lock contains documents attesting the authenticity of the relics.

For similar devotional cabinets dating around 1600 :

Houston, Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation, inv. n° BF.2008.1

Phoenix, Phoenix Art Museum, inv. n° 1998.1.A

Munich, Bayerisches Nationalmuseum, inv. n° 77/329

### **Literature:**

James Clifton, « Verbum Domini manet in eternum » : Devotional Cabinets and Kunst-und Wunderkammern around 1600, in : *The Primacy of the Image in Northern European Art, 1400-1700*, Leyden, Boston, 2017, pp. 474-486.