

RALPH GIERHARDS

ANTIQUES / FINE ART



Significant Ceiling Chandelier

85 cm

33.4645669291339

18th Century

85 x 0 cm (33¹/₂ x 0 inches)

Various rock crystals and gilt bronze / 12 arms

Characteristic of this crystal chandelier are the typical pendentives (pendulums and plaquettes). These are flat cast and then cut glass leaves with faceted outlines. Their formal model is not found in rock crystal pendants, as with other pendant types, but probably derives from the shapes of contemporary mirrors.

Crystal chandeliers were a distinctly exclusive pleasure in the 18th century. It wasn't until around 1760 that a more bourgeois form with loose crystal chain pendants developed in Sweden.

Literature:

Renate Möller, Lamps, Chandeliers and Candelabra, German Art Publishers, Munich/Berlin 2000, pp. 58-67