## RALPH GIERHARDS

ANTIQUES / FINE ART



## Significant Writing Casket

Circa: Circa 1720 15 x 44 cm 5.90551181102362 x 5.90551181102362"

Circa 1720 15 x 44 x 34 cm  $(5^7/_8$  x  $17^3/_8$  inches) France

Probably made by a Flemish master Walnut, violet wood, rosewood, and ivory, veneered Small wooden inlay missing on the right

Longitudinal casket with a domed lid, containing a central oval ivory cartouche with exquisite rosewood inlays in the form of grotesque masks, birds of paradise, and intertwined tendrils, all framing a decorative urn with a fleur-de-lys. This central medallion lies within a rectangular field divided by undulating bands. The corners of the lid are also inlaid with exquisite exotic wood in a surface of ivory. The narrow sides, front, and back are designed in the same style. Inside the lid is a hinged drawer. The casket has a central, lockable drawer, with secret drawers below. Surrounding it are five open compartments.