

RALPH GIERHARDS

ANTIQUES / FINE ART



An Italian Tortoiseshell Casket

Circa: Circa 1740 - 1750

Kasten, Kästchen, Italien,

8.7 x 15 cm

3.42519677530123 x 3.42519677530123"

Circa 1740 - 1750

8.7 x 15 cm (3³/₈ x 5⁷/₈ inches)

Attributed to Giuseppe Sarao (active 1730–1772)

Serpentine outline, finely inlaid with mother-of-pearl and gold piqué, lace, and flap. The hinged lid is decorated with a classical scene depicting an abducted lady. A golden chariot accompanied by cupids and attendants, framed by Rococo shell scrolls and cartouches, on a napkin ground, with a gold thumbpiece and push-button handle revealing a divided interior, probably for scent bottles.

Literature:

Antigone Clarke & Joseph O'Kelly, *Antique Boxes, Tea Caddies & Society, 1700-1880*, 2nd Edition, p. 133, fig. 182

Alexis Kugel, *Complètement Piqué, le Fol Art de L'Écaille a la cour de Naples*, Éditions Monelle Hyot/Galerie J. Kugel, 2018, Fig. 10