

# R A L P H   G I E R H A R D S

ANTIQUES / FINE ART

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## **A Flemish Casket of Lacquer and Tortoiseshell with Inlays**

Kasten, Kästchen, Antwerpen, Belgien, Box, small box, Antwerp, Belgium,

23.5 x 44.1 cm  
9.25196850393701 x 9.25196850393701"

17th Century  
23.5 x 44.1 x 27.9 cm (9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 17<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> inches)  
Flemish

Antwerp, 2nd half of the 17th century

Lacquer, tortoiseshell, ebony, and various wood species, mother-of-pearl

These Flemish lacquer inlaid objects appear to be influenced by Japanese Namban lacquer and Anglo-Indian or Luso-Indian lacquer and woodwork, using exotic woods of various colors and mother-of-pearl inlays. The box displays the typical octagonal settings of colored tortoiseshell on the lid and sides, as well as negative inlay panels depicting the red lacquer (shellac) inlaid with marble and mother-of-pearl pieces surrounding the decorative scrolls carved from the ebony.

### **Literature:**

De Kesel, Wilfried/Dhont, Greet: Flemish Lacquer Cabinets from the 17th Century. Oostkamp 2012

Kopplin, Monika: European Lacquer. Munich 2010, p. 160.