OUAISS ANTIQUITÉS
Galerie des Arts



EARLY 19TH GOLD-LINED, TORTOISESHELL MICROMOSAIC SNUFF BOX, EMPIRE PERIOD

Era: Empire.

Materials: tortoiseshell, micromosaic, gold.

Dim: W 3.3 in (8,5 cm) / D 1.7 in (4,5 cm) / H 0.7in. (2 cm).

1st rooster: 1798-1809.

Head of man 1798-1809.

Rectangular tortoiseshell snuff box with a hinged lid, decorated with a micromosaic set in a frame embellished with rinceaux. The micromosaic represents a view of the Temple of Sibyl and Vesta on Tivoli Hill in Rome, with Saint Martin's bridge in the foreground and waterfalls descending into the Aniene river. The interior of this snuff box is entirely lined with gold. The quality and shape of this micromosaic's tesselles (small tiles) sets its date during the first half of the 19th century.