

ART + DESIGN PART 1



Auction

09 April 2020
noon ct

Wright

1440 West Hubbard Street
Chicago IL
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191

MIGUEL BERROCAL Il Cofanetto

gold-plated bronze

7½ h × 7½ w × 5¼ d in (19 × 19 × 15 cm)

The concept of multiples was central to Miguel Berrocal's artistic practice. Just as painters used printing techniques to reproduce graphic works, Berrocal sought to make his three-dimensional sculptures accessible to a broader audience using advanced casting technology. As a result, many of the artist's works were planned to be produced in large editions, however, given the complexity of the forms, full editions were often not completed.

Impressed signature and number to housing 'Berrocal 72/500'. This work is number 72 from the edition of 500 of which 150 were to be made in gold-plated bronze. Ultimately only 37 examples were ever realized. This is one of Berrocal's most complex works—it took the artist six years to complete. The pieces of *Il Cofanetto* make up a complete service for two with four additional serving utensils, four goblets, four candlesticks, four ashtrays and one centerpiece. Berrocal's sculpture *Romeo e Giulietta* can be inserted atop this coffin, an homage to the young lovers. Sold with original book containing instructions for assembly, certificate issued by Artcurial. Wright would like to thank the Berrocal foundation for their assistance in the cataloguing of this lot.

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Provenance: Artcurial, Paris | David May, Portland, OR

Literature: *Antologica Berrocal (1955-1984)*, Gallego, Opus 123, ppg. 17, 220, 240, 247, 449
Scientific American, January 1978, pg. 24

Estimate: \$3,000–5,000

Result: \$5,938

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