

CREEL AND GOW



FRENCH BRONZE VIDE-POCHE WITH ROOSTER BY AUGUSTE CAIN, 19TH CENTURY

SKU: N/A

Categories: [Decor](#), [Objet & Sculptures](#)

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

This finely cast 19th-century French bronze vide-poche takes the form of a broad, naturalistically modeled leaf, animated by a sculptural rooster perched upon a rocky outcrop at one end. The surface is richly textured with radiating veins, trailing stems, and small botanical details, demonstrating the high level of craftsmanship associated with French animalier bronzes of the period. The piece is signed "A. Cain", identifying it as the work of Auguste Cain, one of the most celebrated French animal sculptors of the 19th century. Cain, a student of Alexandre Guionnet and a frequent collaborator of Pierre-Jules Mêne, was renowned for his dynamic and naturalistic depictions of animals, works of which were exhibited at the Paris Salon and widely collected. The rooster—an enduring symbol of France—is rendered with vitality and precision, while the leaf-form tray reflects the period's fascination with nature-inspired decorative objects. Intended for use as a vide-poche or desk tray, the object successfully balances sculptural presence with practical function. Executed in patinated bronze with a deep, warm surface, this piece exemplifies the refined decorative arts of late 19th-century France and stands as a fine example of Auguste Cain's animalier output.