

EARLY 20TH CENTURY SWISS ART NOUVEAU CARVED WALNUT SCULPTURE SIGNED C. BINDER

$1,600

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Categories: Black Forest & Carved Wood

Carved from a single block of walnut and signed C. Binder, this remarkable antique Swiss sculpture dates to circa 1912. Acquired in France, the large figurative composition depicts two men dressed in traditional attire, standing closely together with their arms around each other in a warm gesture of friendship and camaraderie.

The figure on the left wears a wrapped turban and long flowing garments while holding a walking stick. His companion sports a tall textured fur hat, a long coat, and a shoulder bag, with one arm resting affectionately across his friend's shoulders. Their expressive faces, detailed mustaches, and animated postures lend the composition a wonderful sense of personality and storytelling.

The sculptor's skill is evident in the deeply carved folds of the clothing, carefully modeled facial features, and naturalistic movement of the figures. Both men stand on an irregular, textured base that retains visible carving marks, emphasizing the handcrafted character of the work. The warm walnut patina highlights the depth and richness of the carving.

The sculpture bears the carved signature "C. Binder" followed by what appears to be "12," suggesting a date of 1912. It is attributed to Carl Binder (1881–1951), a Swiss sculptor associated with the Art Nouveau period, although the attribution has not been independently verified.

The antique walnut sculpture is in excellent condition commensurate with age and use. A distinctive work of European folk-inspired sculpture, ideal for a library, study, or collection of early 20th-century decorative arts.

Dimensions: 15.5"W x 11.5"D x 26.5"H.

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