



"Walloon-Hilt" Sword

Date

about 1650–1700

Medium

steel, iron, brass and wood

Description

Steel double-edge lozenge-section rapier blade tapering to acute point. Both sides of forte with pair of deep short fullers, identically marked "+ ANTHANI + IOHANNI +". Iron "Walloon" broadsword hilt of 2nd 1/2 17th c. Asymmetrical shells filled with embossed iron plates. Two iron arms form half-basket hilt with 1 balustered bar rising from obverse shell & plugging into pommel & another

bar forming knuckle guard also fitted into pommel. Short rear quillon with swollen flat terminal curved toward blade. Iron inverted fig-shaped pommel with button & necked base. Spiral wooden grip wrapped in iron wire & overlaid with coiled brass wire. Wrapping perhaps restored. Pair of restored brass "Turk's heads" at ends. Rear shell with iron thumb-ring. Hilt apparently once fire-blued.

Dimensions

105.4 × 90.2 cm (41 1/2 × 35 1/2 in.), 2 lb, 1 oz (weight)