

Armchair - so called Savonarola chair

Furniture Collection

Accession Nr.: 62.140.1 

Date of production: ca. 1500

Place of production: Italy

Materials: walnut wood

Techniques: carved

Dimensions:
height: 97 cm
width: 67,5 cm
depth: 48 cm

The chair can be folded by lifting. Its scissors-like structure consists of parallel, curved ribs. The companion piece is in the collection of the Berlin Kunstgewerbe Museum. This piece next to the "Dante-chair" was the most typical armchair of the Italian renaissance. It was named after Savonarola (1452-1498), the Prior of the monastery of San Marco in Florence. The folding chair originated in Egypt, although it often appears on Greek-Roman vases. The direct ancestor was the medieval faldistorium: it was this piece of furniture that developed into folding chairs, such as the sedia Savonarola and sedia Dantesca, at the end of the Italian quattrocento.

Literature

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