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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