



Inv. no. 7/1976

OCTAGONAL PANEL, CARVED SYCAMORE

EGYPT, CAIRO; 1296

DIAM: 27.5 CM

The wooden panel was carved with an arabesque decoration that is symmetrical in the vertical axis. The decoration consists of a complicated network of palmettes, tendrils, and strings of beads in four different layers against the flat ground.

The panel comes from the great *minbar* (pulpit) that the Mamluk sultan al-Mansur Husam al-Din Lajin had erected in the Ibn Tulun Mosque in Cairo in 1296. The sides of the some four-meter-high *minbar* were covered with panels of different shapes that together formed a complicated geometric pattern consisting of several hundred parts. All of these panels were carved with various types of arabesques.

Published in:

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