

How this item is made ????

(EACH COLLECTOR IS ALSO A HISTORY EXPERT, He knows all about his coins, included how it has been manufactured)

For this reason they have a general passion for old manufacturing techniques and some of them for antique furniture.

For this reason two important collectors asked to Alberto a CHALLENGE:

WHY NOT AN EXACT REPLICA OF A COIN CONTAINER built in the same manner, and manufactured with the same methodology used for the furniture in the past?

Alberto accepted the challenge and this object is the result thanks to the collaboration with an old retired carpenter who taught and helped Albert to create this item.

The design and the decorations of this item follow the example of Florentine / Tuscany style of 1700

THE WOOD (four types)

FRAME AND SUPPORT FEET : Walnut

EXTERNAL SURFACE : Walnut, Olive Tree, Maple and Mahogany, all manually assembled in a veneered surface of 3 mm to create the final design. (The woods used are very old; each piece has been reused from other ancient items).

The entire assembling and manufacturing require 3 weeks of work.

THE PAINTING

How were painted the furniture in the past? - REPLY : As follow:

Time needed to obtain the transparent painting is almost 12 hours of hard working divided in two steps:

FIRST STEP: it is used a mix of pure 99% alcohol with Rubber Lac and pumice powder at the smallest grain size (000). The first step need almost 4 hours of manual activity to pre-finish the surface.

An additional notice about RUBBER LAC:

The Rubber Lac is a secretion of the insect Hemiptera Kerria lacquer, present in the Asian forests. The Lac is obtained from secretions of the female, and is collected from the bark of the trees on which deposits it to get a firm grip on the shaft. Once purified, the substance takes the form of yellow flakes.

The Rubber Lac is a natural polymer and has a chemical composition similar to that of synthetic polymers, and is therefore considered a natural plastic.

BEING EDIBLE, it is used as a polishing agent for pills and candies. To this end, it is classified as a food additive number E904 and is still used as a coating to prevent the decay of fruit after harvesting.

Going back to our manufacturing facts,

The SECOND STEP: is made using a mix of sole alcohol and rubber lac, using simply a cotton rag called in Italy "Piumaccio"
This activity need one entire day.

RECOMMENDATION TO USE : keep it in a safe area and ...

Like in the Past... NEVER USE SPRAYS or chemical products, just a soft cloth.

Do it at least for the next 100 Year !! and please accept our apologies for the time spent to read it.

Alberto Zecchi

March 2014, Florence Italy

Visit us at www.albertozecchi.it