



**JAIME EGUIGUREN**

ART & ANTIQUES

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Peru, Lima.  
circa 1750

**ARMOIRE**

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## *Armoire*

Assembled and carved wood.  
Height: 271 cm; Width: 142 cm; Depth: 73 cm.

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Classic storage furniture of prismatic shape formed by two bodies. The bottom has two carved doors decorated with baskets that imitate the work of basketry. The middle part has three drawers decorated with foliate scrolls. The upper part is composed by a pair of doors that when opened show shelves decorated with carved motifs. The doors are also richly decorated with vases and vegetal motifs. The cabinet finishes in a big carved cresting depicting the double-headed eagle of the Habsburgs and side decorations. It is noteworthy the beautiful carvings that decorate the furniture everywhere, in addition to those already mentioned we note the friendly putti of the top corners and the fantastic animals stands that support the cabinet which denotes the rich imagination of Andean furniture.



The Armoire is a cabinet that has its origins in classical antiquity during the development of the Roman Empire. With the advent of the Middle Ages it became an exclusively religious character furniture as it was located in monasteries and convents where it was intended to keep the elements of worship and sacred books as well as vessels, vestments and liturgical

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instruments. The cabinet was not yet a furniture of the castle, in which the essential furniture was the chest, a nomadic trunk that allowed the wandering lords to get away from danger at any time. From the seventeenth century and especially in the eighteenth century, its use will be extended to civil matters. In domestic interiors they were designed to store clothes, bedding and other objects. The cabinets can be austere, wooden beams and with severe decorations on their front or elaborate, with all kinds of ornaments, carvings imitating flowers baskets, vegetal scrolls, animals and sometimes also painted with flowers or gallant scenes. They usually finish in carved or pierced big crestings.



Armario. Anónimo. Ámbito virreinal Andino. Siglo XVIII. Museo Histórico Nacional, Chile



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Armario. Anónimo Cusqueño. Siglo XVIII. Museo Histórico Nacional, Chile.

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