# JUGENDSTIL VITRINE JOSEPH M. OLBRICH ATTR. A NAGEL VIENNA CA. 1905

Jugendstil Vitrine part of a complete dining room,
design attributed to Joseph M. Olbrich,
manufactured by A. Nagel Vienna, ca. 1905,
stained oak, thuja veneered, mother-of-pearl
inlays, brass, original fittings

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The Jugendstil vitrine is part of a complete dining room manufactured by fine Viennese cabinetmaker A. Nagel. The exquisite ensemble dating from ca. 1905 also includes an extendable dining table with six chairs, a large sideboard, a grandfather-clock and a side table. Stylistically very similar, the Secessionist furniture and a large sideboard designed by Joseph Maria Olbrich are illustrated in the exhibition catalog of the 1984 Venice Biennale “Le Arti a Vienna”. Thus, we feel confirmed in our assumption to attribute the whole ensemble to famous architect-designer Olbrich.

The vitrine is made of solid oak finest Viennese cabinetmaker quality bearing a relief-like ornamentation with mother-of-pearl inlays on the front. The two-piece body is stained and polished, its interior in the upper part lavishly veneered with thuja-wood. Display case and hinged drawer enthuse with their relief carvings, contrasting mother-of-pearl ornaments and faceted glass.

Particularly charming are the decorative elements made of cast and chased brass featuring stylized flowers on the display case door and drawer-fitting. The vitrine perfectly reflects the taste of the wealthy upper class in Vienna around 1900 and testifies to the superb quality of Fine Viennese cabinetmaking of the time.

Kunsthandel Nikolaus Kolhammer GmbH
Agnesstraße 50, 3400 Klosterneuburg
Österreich, Europa

+43 676 406 46 00
info@kolhammer.com

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Agnesstraße 50, 3400 Klosterneuburg
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info@kolhammer.com