



Important Bronze And Marble Mantel Clock, Silenus Feeding The Young Bacchus



1 500 EUR

Signature : Anonyme

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 27.5 cm

Height : 55 cm

Depth : 17.5 cm

Description

The piece presented here is a remarkable mantel clock. It evokes the splendor of the Empire period, when art and watchmaking embodied the ideals of grandeur, refinement, and technical perfection that characterized the neoclassical style dear to Napoleon Bonaparte. The clock, which is the central element of this set, is distinguished by its round-bosse decoration representing a mythological scene of Silenus feeding the young Bacchus. In Greek mythology, Silenus, the faithful companion and mentor of Bacchus, is often represented as a jovial and benevolent figure. On this clock, Silenus is leaning on a tree trunk, a posture that reflects both the tenderness and support he gives to the young god of wine and festivities. This iconographic choice is typical of the clock decorations of the Empire period,

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which advocated a return to classical themes and mythological representations, combining them with architectural and natural elements to express the timeless beauty of Antiquity. The movement of the clock, in gilded bronze, is harmoniously integrated into the decoration, fixed to the tree trunk that supports the dial. This integration of mechanical elements into the structure of the decoration is characteristic of Empire clocks, where the practical function of the clock elegantly fades into the background to blend into an artistic composition. The use of gilded bronze for the movement creates a subtle contrast with the patinated bronze that makes up the majority of the scene, thus enhancing the precious appearance of the clock and its ornamental character. The plinth of the clock, wide and majestic, is carved from Siena marble, a stone renowned for its yellow hues and elegant veins, which bring a touch of warmth and luxury to the whole. This choice of material highlights the care taken with every detail and demonstrates the search for aesthetic perfection specific to the creations of the period. This plinth is decorated with bronze water leaf motifs, which fit perfectly into the Empire style by recalling antique ornaments, while adding visual lightness to the structure of the clock. Four bronze pads support this marble base, giving the clock stability and dignity. The marriage of bronze and marble creates a harmonious dialogue between solidity and delicacy, essential qualities in the works of this period. Of an imposing size (55 x 27.5 x 17.5 cm), the clock immediately catches the eye with its majestic presence and its fine craftsmanship. The patina of the bronze, subtly aged, and the brilliance of the well-preserved Siena marble testify to the care taken in the conservation of this clock, which is in remarkable condition. Its general condition is very good, which makes it a rare collector's item, capable of enhancing any interior with its historical character and artistic refinement. This mantel clock is a perfect example of the art of the Empire period, where

watchmaking and decorative arts combine to create exceptional objects. By embodying timeless mythological themes in noble materials, it invites the viewer on a journey into the past, to the heart of an era where the perfection of forms and the return to the values of Antiquity were raised to the rank of true aesthetic ideals. This object is available for sale in my shop at 57 rue Victor Hugo, 76000 Rouen Possibility of delivery (ask for a transport quote) See you soon You can follow me on my Instagram by following this link:

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