French Louis XVI Century Clock



3 000 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Marble

Length : 29 cm

Width : 13 cm

Diameter : 11 cm

Height : 38 cm

Description

Royal Antique is delighted to present this elegant mantel clock, a superb example of the refined aesthetic of the Louis XVI style. This period, renowned for its emphasis on classical motifs, graceful proportions, and exquisite craftsmanship, is beautifully encapsulated in this timepiece.Design and Materials:Classical Portico Architecture: The clock features a distinctive portico form, inspired by classical temple architecture. It presents a central clock face majestically framed by two stately columns, all crafted from luminous white Carrara marble.Luminous Carrara Marble: The primary material is high-quality Carrara marble, a prized material known for its pristine purity, subtle veining, and inherent elegance. The marble's smooth, cool surface provides a beautiful contrast

Dealer

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to the radiant gilt bronze accents, creating a visually stunning piece.Radiant Gilt Bronze Mounts: The white marble is sumptuously adorned with finely chased and mercury-gilded bronze (ormolu) mounts. These include:Ornate Columns and Capitals: The columns are topped with richly detailed Corinthian or similar classical capitals and bases in gilt bronze.Festoon and Drapery: A classical festoon or drapery in gilt bronze elegantly hangs below the dial, often accompanied by classical motifs such as laurel branches or musical instruments.Prominent Pendulum: A visible gilt bronze pendulum, often in the form of a classical lyre, sunburst, or allegorical medallion, swings below the dial, adding dynamic visual interest.Star Motifs: The curved pediment above the dial is typically adorned with applied gilt bronze stars, a popular Neoclassical motif.Elegant Feet: The rectangular base, also in marble, rests on delicate gilt bronze toupie feet, ensuring stability and enhancing its elevated presence.Elegant Enamel Dial: The circular clock face is likely made of pristine white enamel or porcelain, protected by a convex glass cover. It features crisp Roman numerals for the hours and delicate blued steel hands, further enhancing the clock's overall elegance. The dial is typically signed by a renowned Parisian horloger, attesting to its quality and provenance.High-Quality Timekeeping Mechanism: The internal timekeeping mechanism is of high quality, ensuring accurate and reliable timekeeping, making it both a functional instrument and a decorative showpiece.Period Significance and Decorative Impact:This Louis XVI style mantel clock, though crafted in the early 19th century, reflects the enduring influence and revival of 18th-century classical taste, often seen in the refined production of the Directoire and early Empire periods. It is not merely a functional timepiece but also a valuable statement piece for any discerning collector or connoisseur of fine art and decorative objects. Its combination of exquisite materials, meticulous craftsmanship,

and timeless design makes it a truly exceptional piece that would add a touch of historical elegance and refinement to any interior.This superb Louis XVI style portico mantel clock, with its classical beauty and intricate details, is a testament to the enduring mastery of French decorative arts. It represents an invaluable acquisition for any collector, promising to be a captivating focal point and a statement of sophisticated taste in any classical or historically inspired interior.