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Empire Style Desk



9 000 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Length : 90 cm

Width : 160 cm

Height : 75 cm

Description

Royal Antique is proud to offer this exceptional 19th-century bureau plat or writing desk, a magnificent embodiment of the Empire style. This influential design movement, flourishing in France during the early 19th century, drew profound inspiration from the majesty and classical purity of the Roman Empire. This desk masterfully showcases the Empire aesthetic through its clean, robust lines, symmetrical design, and the luxurious application of rich materials.Materials and Exquisite Details:Noble Mahogany Construction: The desk is impeccably crafted from high-quality mahogany, renowned for its strength and beautiful grain. The wood is polished to a deep, lustrous finish, enhancing its inherent warmth and sophistication.Spacious Leather-Inlaid Top: It features a substantial and

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well-proportioned work surface, typically inlaid with a fine dark leather (as visible in the image), providing an ideal, durable, and elegant writing area.Ornate Gilt Bronze Mounts: The mahogany is lavishly adorned with meticulously crafted gilt bronze mounts, which are hallmarks of Empire furniture. These include:Classical Heads / Term Figures: The corners of the pedestals are embellished with striking gilt bronze classical heads or term figures, often symbolizing imperial dignity or allegorical virtues.Applied Motifs: The drawer fronts are further decorated with finely detailed gilt bronze applied motifs, such as classical rosettes, stylized palmettes, or intricate scrollwork, adding a layer of sophisticated ornamentation.Lion Paw Feet: The desk stands on powerful and elegantly sculpted gilt bronze lion paw feet, a quintessential Empire motif symbolizing strength and grandeur.Ample Storage: The practical design includes multiple drawers (visible as two rows of four drawers on each pedestal, plus a central frieze drawer), offering generous storage space for documents and office essentials, combining functionality with aesthetic appeal.Period Significance and Craftsmanship:This bureau plat is a quintessential representation of Empire design (circa 1800-1820), where furniture was conceived as architectural forms, reflecting the power and order of Napoleon's reign. The harmonious proportions, the purity of form, and the lavish use of gilt bronze speak to the exceptional skill of the Parisian ébénistes and bronziers of the period. This desk has been expertly renovated, ensuring its structural integrity and preserving its exquisite original details, allowing it to remain a testament to the unparalleled craftsmanship of the Empire era.This magnificent Empire period desk is more than just a functional workspace; it is a profound piece of art history, promising to be a striking focal point and a distinguished conversation starter in any home office, library, or grand study. Its timeless design and exquisite craftsmanship make it an invaluable acquisition for discerning

collectors and connoisseurs of fine French antique furniture.