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## Ferdinand Duvinage Triptych Mirror



11 000 EUR

Signature : Ferdinand Duvinage

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Other

Width : 32

Height : 41.5

Depth : 3

### Description

Superior quality gilt bronze triptych mirror, the folding panel doors are executed in floral marquetry on an ivory background with Bronze mounts Signed Alph. Giroux. As early as 1863, Ferdinand Duvinage (1823-1876) ran a shop selling paintings and fans. In 1867, he joined forces with Alphonse Giroux by taking over the business on Boulevard des Capucines. This partnership allowed him to affix the brand "Maison Giroux Paris" then "Ancienne Maison Giroux" on the mounts of his creations. On May 6, 1874, Ferdinand Duvinage filed a first patent for "a type of mosaic marquetry with metal partitioning for furniture and art objects". This patent filed by Duvinage is truly original. The process he invented consisted of "the combined assembly of ivory as a background, wood, dyed

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or exotic, for the designs or ornaments, and copper or other metal to partition the ivory fragments". The ivory was intended to form the background and was therefore hollowed out to "accommodate the wooden mosaic" and the copper wires. These, most often, represented the branches and stems of the plant elements. The first patent was completed by two additions. Indeed, in February 1876, Duvinage imagined replacing the ivory with a wood imitating "ivory yellowed by time", in this case boxwood. A few months later, in November 1876, he proposed to further enrich the decoration of furniture and objects in cloisonné ivory by adding "metal or other material appliques representing birds, animals, shrubs, flowers, foliage, fruits, etc., with inlays of pearls or precious stones". This type of ornamentation is, however, relatively rare in Duvinage's work; most of the time, his productions are limited to the technique described in his first patent, without any protruding elements. The decorations are always linked to nature, most often with birds or plant elements, in a Japanese style. In 1876, Rosalie Duvinage, known as "the widow Duvinage", took over the business after her husband's death and took out a patent in 1877 for a Japanese-inspired marquetry style, allowing the addition of a mother-of-pearl decoration to the previous patent. To this day, no piece of furniture, object or panel bearing a mother-of-pearl decoration is known. The works resulting from this marquetry technique were exhibited at the Universal Exhibition of 1878 (D. Kisluk-Grosheid, 'Maison Giroux and its 'Oriental' Marquetry Technique', Furniture History: The Journal of The Furniture History Society, 1998, Vol. 34). The widow Duvinage ceased her activity in 1882. Taken over by A. Philippe and E. Arnut from 1883 to 1884, the former Giroux house ceased all activity in 1885.