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Rare Imposing First Empire Mahogany And Gilt Bronze Cheval



5 970 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Mahogany

Width : 102 cm

Height : 192 cm

Depth : 66 cm

Description

This magnificent First Empire period cheval mirror, standing at over 1.90 meters in height, is an exceptional example of early 19th-century French craftsmanship. Designed as a freestanding pivoting mirror, it is mounted on an elegant wooden frame, allowing it to tilt for an adjustable reflection. This functionality, combined with its imposing stature, makes it a highly practical yet luxurious piece.Made from beautifully grained mahogany, the mirror is adorned with exquisite gilded bronze (ormolu) mounts that highlight the neoclassical influence characteristic of the Empire style. The pediment, shaped like a classical temple, features a finely cast bronze medallion of a female figure, evoking the grandeur of ancient Rome and Greece. Below, an intricate ormolu appliqué depicts a pair of winged

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sphinxes flanking a stylized palmette, a recurring motif in Empire furniture that symbolizes power and elegance. The corners of the frame are further embellished with finely detailed rosettes, reinforcing its regal aesthetic.The mirror is supported by two finely turned and slightly tapered columnar supports, crowned with finely engraved gilded capitals. These columns extend down to elegantly curved legs, fitted with small castors for easy mobility. The pivoting mechanism, a hallmark of cheval mirrors, allows the mirror to be adjusted for various angles, making it as functional as it is decorative.The mirror itself is of exceptional quality, with a large, clear reflective surface that enhances light and space. The back panel is upholstered in a mustard-gold fabric, complementing the warm tones of the wood and ormolu details.This rare and elegant First Empire cheval mirror is a statement piece, embodying the refinement and grandeur of Napoleonic design. Its combination of classical elegance, luxurious detailing, and functional adaptability makes it a perfect addition to any sophisticated interior.