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Antique 18k Gold Pocket Watch. Switzerland, Circa 1920



1 700 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Gold

Diameter : 48 mm. (1.89 in)

Description

A wonderful collector's item, this antique pocket watch made in Switzerland around 1920 represents the timeless elegance of classical watchmaking. Crafted in solid 18-karat gold (18K), this watch stands out not only for its fine mechanism but also for its exceptional decorative work. It is an ultra-thin model, extremely well preserved and fully functional, ideal for discerning collectors or lovers of high-value antiques. The back cover is undoubtedly one of the most striking elements of this piece. Its surface is decorated with a delicate pattern of vertical stripes, interspersed with fine wavy lines and surrounded by a beautiful Art Nouveau-style vegetal motif. Above this composition is a floral crown with three sculpted flowers in relief, topping a central shield engraved with the initials

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"PR", likely those of its first owner. This level of detail, achieved through hand engraving, reflects outstanding craftsmanship. The dial, in a sober silver tone, also features a central vegetal engraving with a satin-like texture, surrounded by Arabic numerals and elegant black Breguet-style hands. At twelve o'clock, the inscription "Chronometre HIRT" appears, indicating a precision manufacture. At six o'clock, a small seconds subdial completes the design with subtlety and balance. The inside of the back cover reveals the hallmarks: the 18K stamp, the manufacturer's mark, and the serial number 2291733, all engraved on a background of hand-polished concentric circles. The manual-wind movement, visible when the cover is opened, is in excellent condition: clean, well-adjusted, and retaining all its original components. This watch not only works perfectly but also represents a magnificent investment opportunity. Its gold purity, delicate design, and impeccable condition make it a piece with great potential for appreciation. It will look fantastic in a collector's display, but also serves as a distinguished accessory for those who enjoy wearing pocket watches on special occasions. A jewel of historic watchmaking that stands out for both its beauty and precision. Measurements: 48 mm (1.89 in). Weight: 50 g. History of Chronomètre HIRT Chronomètre HIRT was a Swiss precision brand active during the first half of the 20th century, specializing in the production of high-end pocket watches for the European market. Like many small Swiss manufacturers, its name did not survive the massive transition to wristwatches after World War II. Nevertheless, during its period of activity, HIRT produced notable timepieces known for their chronometric accuracy, many of which were sold in prestigious jewelry stores in Switzerland, France, and Germany. Its movements, though not always prominently signed, were assembled using quality components, sometimes with base calibers from manufacturers such as FHF (Fabrique

d'Horlogerie de Fontainemelon), renowned for their reliability. HIRT watches were often distinguished by intricately engraved cases, suggesting they were intended for a refined clientele who appreciated both technical precision and aesthetic appeal. Today, watches signed HIRT are rare, which increases their value among collectors of rare Art Deco or earlier timepieces.