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## Antique Paul Boch Silver Pocket Watch For The Chinese Market, Switzerland, Circa 1870

1 500 EUR



Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Sterling silver

Diameter : 54 mm (2.13 in)

Description
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This charming pocket watch by Paul Boch is a remarkable piece of 19th-century Swiss watchmaking, created specifically for the Chinese market around 1870. With a finely crafted silver case and central seconds hand, this watch embodies the fusion of Swiss precision with the oriental aesthetic that captivated collectors and time enthusiasts of the era. The case, with a diameter of 54 mm, has an impressive presence that allows its exquisite design to be easily appreciated. Inside, the mechanism is a true work of art: every component is decorated with intricate motifs reminiscent of oriental engravings, making it unique and reinforcing its original purpose as an export watch for the Chinese market. This watch shows no visible silver hallmarks, a common trait in antique pieces

Dealer
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meant for export; however, it is guaranteed to be made of genuine silver, with its luster intact despite the years. The dial features clear numerals and a central seconds hand, details that have been well preserved for their time and allow easy reading. The original case, included with the piece, adds extra value as it has been well preserved. This component is especially valuable as it protects the watch and its mechanism, keeping the decorative details intact. Overall, this Paul Boch piece stands out for its rarity and authenticity, exemplifying the prestige of Geneva's watchmaking, which skillfully catered to international clients with pieces that combined functionality, art, and precision. This watch would be ideal for any collection or as a decorative object with history, adding a touch of elegance and culture to any space. This watch, which has traveled through eras and continents, is more than just a timepiece; it is a testament to the history of Swiss watchmaking and its expansion into markets as distant as China, allowing you to possess a piece of history that is, without a doubt, a jewel worthy of admiration.

**Measurements:**  
Diameter: 54 mm (2.13 in)

**History of Paul Boch and Swiss Watchmaking in the Chinese Market**

Paul Boch was among the watchmakers who stood out in the 19th century in Geneva, when Switzerland was already a global leader in fine watchmaking. During this period, Swiss watchmakers began adapting their creations to specific markets, including the Chinese market, which had a particular taste for intricately decorated and high-precision pieces. Watches destined for China often featured decorations and ornamental details inspired by oriental art, reflecting the deep appreciation for aesthetics characteristic of the Chinese clientele. Although these watches were made in Switzerland, the artistic style and design details respected and reflected Chinese taste, allowing Swiss watchmakers to successfully expand into this distant and culturally distinct market. This focus on tailoring pieces to market preferences

contributed to the growth of the Swiss watch industry abroad, consolidating its global reputation and its adaptability to different tastes and styles. Today, a silver pocket watch created by Paul Boch for the Chinese market is not only a marvel of engineering and design but also a symbol of the early globalization of Swiss watchmaking and its influence on far-reaching markets. Acquiring a piece like this not only means owning a watch but also a tangible connection to a time and a market that valued elegance, precision, and the cultural richness that a fine watch could offer.