

Amethyst Mantel Clock With Astronomical Dial And Gilt Bronze Ornaments



20 000 EUR

Period: 18th century Condition: Bon état Material: Bronze

Length: 28 Height: 60 Depth: 17

Description

France, Paris, late 18th centuryDial signed Delhaux-Lariv, Rue de la Barillerie n. 24, à ParisAmethyst, fire-gilt bronze, enamel, mechanical movement with strikingAn extraordinary mantel clock crafted in the final decades of the 18th century (circa 1790-1800), combining refined craftsmanship, symbolism and scientific complexity. The case is carved from polished amethyst, adorned with fine fire-gilt bronze mounts. The enamel dial functions as a miniature astronomical calendar, displaying: Hours (central Arabic numerals, elegant pierced hands), Minutes (outer ring 1-60), Day of the month (1-31), Months and corresponding zodiac signs, Phases of the moon, shown in a blue arc with a stylized lunar face. Topped by a putto holding a torch (symbol

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of light, time or reason), the clock rests on a base decorated with a gilt frieze showing allegories of science and the mechanical arts, referencing Enlightenment ideals. The clock is signed Delhaux-Lariv, a Parisian clockmaker active in the late 18th century, known for producing sophisticated scientific timepieces. This clock embodies the intellectual and decorative spirit of late Enlightenment-era France, where horology was both scientific instrument and allegorical art.