



Large Wall Sconce With A Napoleon III "puto" In Gilt Bronze - Late 19th Century



780 EUR

Signature : Travail français fin XIXe

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 14cm

Height : 67cm

Depth : 22cm

Description

This remarkable gilt bronze wall sconce, likely from a Parisian workshop in the second half of the 19th century, is a prime example of the Rococo and Louis XV revival that characterized the historicist taste of the Second Empire and the early decades of the Third Republic. Its exuberant decoration and virtuoso chasing exemplify the exceptionally high level of technical mastery of the bronze artisans of this period. The composition is organized around a central oval medallion, surrounded by a profusion of acanthus leaves, scrolls, and cascading foliage. This richly sculpted frame rests on a vertical structure punctuated at the top by a ribboned bow, a typically Louis XVI motif that here complements the Rococo style of the rest of the piece. At the top, a stylized, broadly flared shell affirms its

Dealer

Neustadt Galerie

Tableaux, objets d'art du Grand Est

Tel : 0388350218

Mobile : 0678528266

28 avenue de la Marseillaise

Strasbourg 67000

connection to the Rococo aesthetic of the 18th century. The most spectacular element of the wall sconce is undoubtedly the light arm, designed in the form of a winged putto transforming into a sea creature. The child's delicately modeled body extends into a fishtail adorned with scales and veined leaves, evoking the figure of the triton or water spirit, a favorite motif in Rococo ornamentation. The putto, with raised arms, supports a chased candle holder decorated with gadroons and garlands, intended to hold a candle or a small light. The bronze work is of remarkable quality: a warm, lustrous gilding, the putto's fleshy modeling reminiscent of the finest 18th-century examples, and the lively scrolls and openwork foliage created with a burin. The energy of the forms, the fluidity of the design and the richness of the decorative repertoire place the object in the tradition of great bronze workers such as Beurdeley, Barbedienne or Picard, whose workshops widely disseminated this type of prestigious piece. By its refinement, its theatrical style and its careful workmanship, this wall sconce appears as an accomplished example of luxury ornamental productions intended for aristocratic and bourgeois interiors of the 19th century, where the homage to the decorative arts of the 18th century is combined with modern technical requirements.