



Spherical Ballot Box From The Paris City Council, France, Late 19th Century



1 500 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Painted metal

Diameter : 21cm / 14.5cm

Height : 35cm

Description

A true piece of our beloved French democracy! A spherical sheet metal ballot box, for the Paris City Council, France, last quarter of the 19th century. A quintessential tool of democracy, this ballot box is made of sheet metal painted green and adorned with a gold band. The sphere still opens very well, with a handle at the front, and is in good overall condition. It is a piece of high historical value, worthy of being displayed in a museum. Documentation: "This ballot box comes from the City Hall. It was used either during Paris City Council meetings or during committee sessions. Its shape is reminiscent of ancient urns used to collect the ashes of the deceased and also for recording court deliberations. It is a rare type of ballot box."

»<https://patpro.paris.fr/notice?id=h%3A%3A0d30>

Dealer

Famille Fresnaye

Généraliste - Troisième génération

Mobile : 0614240672

Léguvin 31490

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7881219-afc9-44e0-92dd-62dbcc52431c&posInS
et=1"Long known as a "ballot box," it was only in
the second half of the 19th century that the word
"urn," evoking the sacred nature of voting, was
definitively adopted. This word is inspired by the
Roman term urna, which refers to a large vessel
used to collect the ashes of the dead, to draw
water, or to collect votes.The ballot boxes of the
Paris Council." Used during deliberations, the
oldest ballot boxes are made of sheet iron painted
dark green and adorned with a gold band.

Spherical in shape and welded onto a base, they
resemble ancient funerary urns, from which they
take their name. They were later replaced by
wooden urns and then by plexiglass ones.

Currently, votes in the Paris Council are mainly
taken by a show of hands or electronically, but
the ballot boxes can serve other
purposes.<https://patpro.paris.fr/objets/urnes-de-vote-et-materiel-electoral>Free shipping within
mainland France. Contact by email preferred. I
am available for further information or additional
photos.