



## "cercle Tournant" Clock Louis XVI Style Carrara Marble And Bronze



7 950 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Marble

Width : 35 cm

Height : 56 cm

Depth : 18 cm

### Description

#### Dating and decorative context

High-quality French mantel clock designed in the Louis XVI neoclassical taste and attributable to the second half of the 19th century, in the historicist tradition that revisited late-18th-century models. The "cercle tournant" (rotating-dial) display is a sought-after complication and is comparatively uncommon on the market, particularly in clean, well-presented condition.

#### Rotating-dial display (reading the time)

Time is shown without conventional hands: two concentric rotating rings (porcelain or enamel on a ceramic support) indicate the hours (Roman numerals) and minutes (upper graduation), while a fixed arrow-shaped index provides the reading. This typology is documented as a highly

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successful 18th-century model whose appeal continued into the 19th century.

#### Materials and workmanship

The clock is mounted on a white marble base (Carrara marble, per your note), with softened edges and a bead-moulded perimeter. The mounts are finely chased and gilt bronze, with dense ornamental tooling across foliage, borders, and scrolling elements--typical of accomplished French decorative bronzes of the period.

#### Ornament and iconography

The main body takes the form of a covered urn enriched with garlands and scrolling foliage, with ram's-head side mounts (a key neoclassical motif) and an acanthus/laurel repertoire. A patinated bronze Cupid, fully sculpted in the round, is integrated into the visual narrative of the display: he holds the bow and directs the arrow index toward the rotating rings, creating a refined interplay between sculpture and mechanism.

#### Movement

Mechanical movement housed within the urn, with key winding and time-setting (traditional French mantel-clock practice). The overall conception is as much about decorative precision as about the ingenious, handleless indication specific to "cercle tournant" clocks.

#### Condition

Excellent presentation, with bright gilding and clean marble surfaces. The patinated bronze figure shows an even patina, with minor age-related marks consistent with period objects.

#### Dimensions:

Height - 56 cm

Width - 35 cm

Depth - 18 cm