



## Louis Philippe Charles X Clock



6 500 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 56 cm

Height : 77 cm

Depth : 18cm

### Description

We are privileged to present this mantel clock, a horological work of art of exceptional quality, representative of the 19th-century French classical style, specifically the Louis-Philippe and Charles X periods. This timepiece is not merely an instrument for measuring time, but a sculpture rich in symbolism, illustrating the mastery of bronze chasing and statuary of the era.

**Harmonious Design and Subtle Contrast of Materials:** The clock is distinguished by a harmonious fusion of gleaming gilt bronze and finely sculpted details in patinated black bronze. This chromatic duality, where the brilliance of the gold responds to the depth of the dark, creates a striking visual contrast, characteristic of post-Empire luxury pieces. The clock's base is richly adorned with delicate symmetrical motifs

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and relief ornaments. The abundance of gilded ornaments, executed with great finesse, lends a touch of refinement and grandeur, reflecting the aristocratic elegance of 19th-century Europe. The Dial, the Center of Attention: The clock's dial, positioned at the center of the composition, is round, with an immaculate white background offering perfect legibility of the black Roman numerals. The hands, remarkably elegant and delicate, blend harmoniously into the overall artistic design of the clock. The dial is encircled by a finely crafted gilt border, which draws the eye and emphasizes its classical perfection. The Allegorical Scene at the Top: At the top of the clock, two imposing figures in patinated bronze embody classical mythological figures, a theme dear to Neoclassicism and its extensions. On the left: A winged male figure, holding a large scythe, symbolizing Chronos, the god of Time. The detailed sculpting of the muscles and wings highlights the power and authority of this allegory of inexorable time. To the right: A female figure in a graceful pose, holding what appears to be a lyre or tablet, symbolizing Art and the Harmony of Life. The drapery of her robe is sculpted with exquisite finesse, conveying a sense of softness and realism. Together, these two statues embody the timeless contrast between the fleeting nature of eternal time and the immortality of art, a recurring and profound theme in classical art. Ornate Base and Periodic Symbol: The clock's imposing base is richly gilded and adorned with symmetrical plant motifs, perfectly executed in the form of acanthus leaves. In the center, just below the dial, appears a sculpted face of mythological inspiration, likely a goddess or ornamental figure, typical of the iconography popular during the Louis-Philippe era. These details highlight the attention to detail and the adaptation of classical styles to the tastes of the July Monarchy. An Artistic and Historical Masterpiece: The style of this clock brilliantly reflects the Louis-Philippe and Charles X periods, successfully combining neoclassical elegance

with subtle symmetry and a new expressiveness.

The precious materials and masterful craftsmanship demonstrate that this clock was designed for the high society and nobility of the time, eager to display their refined taste and classical erudition. This is not simply a timekeeping instrument, but a work of art in its own right, rich in symbolism, expressing the beauty of 19th-century sculpture and metalwork.

**Key Points and Acquisition Potential: Powerful Allegorical Design:** The union of the figures of Chronos and Art offers a profound visual narrative on the nature of time and artistic heritage. **Exceptional Bronze Quality:** The contrast between the bright gilt bronze and the dark patinated bronze, combined with the fine chasing, testifies to a very high level of craftsmanship. **Neo-Classical Materials:** The use of these two bronzes as the primary materials is characteristic of early 19th-century elegance.

**Symbol of Status:** Such a clock, by virtue of its size and the richness of its detail, was an important social marker in aristocratic and bourgeois interiors. **Tangible Historical Piece:** It represents a milestone in the evolution of post-Napoleon I styles, illustrating the continuity of classical taste in a period of political transition.

**Collector's Investment:** For collectors of 19th century art clocks and objets d'art, this clock represents a major acquisition and a sound investment.