



## Gold Box Circa 1800



36 000 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Gold

Diameter : 8,5

Height : 2,2

### Description

This exquisite gold boîte-à-miniature is a testimony to the refined European taste in the transition from the 18th to the 19th century, specifically placing it in the aesthetics of the period of the Directory or the French Consulate. The piece stands out not only for its material value, but also for the historical narrative contained in its iconography. The heart of the box is a miniature delicately executed on a thin sheet of ivory, whose natural luminosity enhances the figure of a young aristocrat. The lady wears a short, curly hairstyle "à la Titus", a daring fashion that emerged after the French Revolution as a symbol of modernity. The gold frame shows a very precise chiseled work. A key detail for its dating is the diamond-shaped punch visible on the inside, a compulsory mark for French goldsmiths

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from 1797 onwards, which confirms its Gallic origin. It could have been a bonbonnière - a box for fine sweets - or a showcase object, rather than an everyday tobacco box. The combination of an unusually large format for a gold box, a practically impeccable state of conservation and a documentary traceability that starts in one of the most prestigious auctions in the world, places it outside the conventional antique circuit. It is this sum of factors - scarcity, artistic quality and historical pedigree - that ensures that the piece is not just a luxury object, but a solid heritage asset whose technical and aesthetic relevance is comparable to that of the specimens held in the great institutional collections. Gold 18-karat gold box, weight 187 g, finely chiseled, decorated with a miniature, Paris, circa 1800. Master X.Q. Lid decorated with a miniature depicting a young woman in a garden. Watercolor on ivory (CITES = OK). Provenance: Christie's Geneva, March 10, 1983