Portico Clock Burl Wood Charles X 1840



1 150 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Restauré par notre atelier

Material : Wood marquetry

Width : 22 cm

Height : 41 cm

Depth : 14 cm

Description

This rare Charles X period portico clock, made around 1840, is
distinguished by its rigorous architecture inspired by Antiquity,
characteristic of the late Neoclassical taste that marked the
decorative arts during the Restoration. Its structure rests on a
symmetrical and monumental composition evoking a small architectural
edifice, where the balance of proportions and the clarity of lines take
precedence over the decorative exuberance of previous periods.

The finely chased circular dial is set at the center of a portico

Dealer

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Lyon 69003

formed by four cylindrical columns sheathed in burr wood veneer with warm and shimmering hues. This veneer, carefully selected for the richness of its grain, lends the whole a visual depth and a natural elegance, contrasting with the brilliance of the mercury-gilt bronze.
The columns, topped with capitals delicately adorned with foliate motifs, support a rectilinear entablature reminiscent of classical architecture, reinforcing the impression of stability and nobility. The exquisitely executed mercury-gilt bronze decoration is an essential element of the clock's aesthetic. Vegetal friezes, stylized scrolls, rosettes, and floral garlands unfold with restraint across the upper and lower facades, illustrating Charles X's taste for measured, elegant ornamentation perfectly integrated into the structure.

The matte and burnished gold gilding animates the surfaces with a subtle interplay of light, highlighting the relief of the chased motifs. The dial, surrounded by a bezel adorned with finely engraved flowers, features understated Roman numerals and blued hands that add a discreet touch of color. Beneath it, a richly decorated, exposed pendulum, composed of a radiating floral medallion, introduces a continuous visual movement that animates the architectural composition.

The clock rests on a rectangular base also veneered in burr wood, highlighted by gilt-bronze friezes that echo the vegetal ornamentation

of the upper section, thus ensuring perfect decorative unity. Through its harmonious blend of classical architecture, precious materials, and refined ornamentation, this portico clock fully exemplifies the Charles X aesthetic, where neoclassical rigor is softened by a taste for decorative richness and the exceptional quality of materials.

The entire veneer has been enhanced with a French polish, providing protection, shine, and highlighting the contrasts.

The original mechanism is intact and unaltered. It strikes the hours and half-hours on an antique bell with a clear and authentic sound.

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