



Period Drop-front Secretary Desk, Transition Louis XV - Louis XVI, French Work Of The 18th Century



2 700 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Marquetry

Length : 84 cm

Width : 37 cm

Height : 132 cm

Description

A drop-front secretary desk in rosewood and palisander marquetry, resting on cabriole legs, characteristic of the Louis XV-Louis XVI Transition style, made in France in the second half of the 18th century. The front is organized around a wide drop-front decorated with a butterfly wing frieze framed by a geometric reserve of contrasting fillets, a composition that foreshadows the Neoclassical taste while retaining the elegance inherited from the preceding reign. The sides also feature rosewood marquetry panels arranged in a herringbone frieze, framed by fillets, demonstrating particularly meticulous cabinetmaking. The drop-front reveals an architecturally designed interior composed of four drawers, compartments, and dividers, arranged symmetrically around a

Dealer

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central space. The entire piece is veneered in rosewood, highlighting the high quality of its execution. The drop-front is covered in antique leather with a gilt-tooled frame. The lower section opens with two doors concealing a storage compartment with an interior shelf. The piece is adorned with chased and gilt bronze mounts, including foliate keyhole escutcheons, a drop-front handle, and decorative mounts at the feet. It rests on gilt bronze sabots that extend the cabriole legs. It is topped with a perfectly fitted, gray Sainte-Anne marble slab, molded with a cavetto molding. Through its design, the balance of its proportions, and the quality of its marquetry, this secretary desk perfectly illustrates the Transition period, a pivotal moment in French cabinetmaking where the sinuous lines of the Louis XV style gradually evolved towards the geometric rigor and measured ornamentation of the Louis XVI style. Period: Second half of the 18th century. Style: Transitional period between Louis XV and Louis XVI. Origin: French work. Materials: Rosewood and palisander marquetry, chased and gilded bronze mounts, antique leather, Sainte-Anne grey marble. Dimensions: Height: 132 cm, Length: 84 cm, Depth: 37 cm. In very good condition, with an antique patina varnish and well-preserved marquetry. We deliver and ship worldwide; please contact us for a precise quote.