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# Louis XVI Wall Clock By Causard Duroy - Id: 911616



8 000 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 42 cm

Height : 79 cm

Depth : 15 cm

## Description

We are delighted to present this elegant wall clock, a remarkable example of exquisite craftsmanship in mercury-gilt bronze (ormolu) dating from the 18th century in France. This exceptional timepiece embodies the pinnacle of Louis XVI style, harmoniously blending refined neoclassical aesthetics with horological virtuosity. The Louis XVI period, characterized by a return to classical purity and a departure from Rococo exuberance, favored symmetry, precise ornamentation, and the celebration of ancient Greek and Roman motifs. The Distinguished Dial and the Master Clockmaker: The large white enamel dial features Roman numerals for the hours and Arabic numerals for the minutes, a hallmark of high-quality 18th-century dials, combining clarity with

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aesthetic appeal. The dial proudly bears the signature of CAUSARD DUROY, attesting to its creation by a prominent and highly respected French clockmaker of the period. Their reputation for the precision of their movements and their collaboration with leading bronze casters lend this attribution particular significance. The Royal Ormolu Case and Classical Iconography: The mercury-gilt bronze case of this cartel clock is a sculptural feat, executed with extraordinary detail: The dial is majestically surmounted by a draped classical urn, the quintessential neoclassical motif symbolizing classical abundance and purity. It is powerfully flanked by columns crowned with goat heads and draped lion skins. The goat head, often associated with Bacchus or Pan, and the lion skin, evoking Hercules, are powerful classical symbols of strength, fertility, and victory, adding a layer of allegorical depth. A dramatic masked lion's head adorns the base of the dial, a bold classical element that underscores the clock's grandeur and serves as a powerful focal point. The tapered case culminates in a decorative pomegranate finish, a detail that symbolizes fertility and prosperity. This distinctive design is notably attributed to the renowned French cabinetmaker, Robert Osmond, a master celebrated for his exquisite bronze mounts and creations during the reigns of Louis XV and Louis XVI. His involvement underscores the exceptional quality and artistic provenance of this piece. A Testament to Louis XVI Refinement: This cartel clock is more than a timekeeping instrument; it is a testament to the Louis XVI era's commitment to harmony, balance, and classical beauty. The original mercury gilding, a demanding and costly process, ensures a lasting brilliance that distinguishes it from later electroplated pieces. Such a magnificent wall clock would have graced the most prestigious drawing rooms and aristocratic residences of the 18th century, serving as a prominent symbol of wealth, taste, and intellectual appreciation of the classical world.

Key Points & Unrivaled Collector Value: Authentic Louis XVI Style: A superb example of 18th-century French Neoclassical design, embodying its characteristic elegance, symmetry, and classical motifs. Original Mercury-Gilt Bronze (Ormolu): The use of this superior and durable gilding technique ensures a brilliant and lasting finish, highly prized by collectors. Signed by CAUSARD DUROY: The signature of a prominent 18th-century French clockmaker adds significant provenance, authenticity, and value. Attributed to Robert Osmond: Attributing the design to such a renowned cabinetmaker and bronze designer as Osmond elevates its artistic and historical significance. Rich Classical Iconography: The symbolic elements-urns, goat heads, hides-are particularly noteworthy. The lion, lion mask, and pomegranate motifs are finely executed and deeply rooted in classical antiquity. Exceptional Horological Art: It combines precise horology with exquisite bronze sculptural work, creating a functional work of art. First-Class Investment Piece: Given its rarity, quality, distinguished maker, and stylistic integrity, this cartel clock represents a highly sought-after and appreciative asset for discerning collectors.