PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

19th Century French Giltwood Mirror With Original Mercury Glass



3 280 EUR

Period : 19th century
Condition : Etat d'usage
Material : Gilted wood
Width : 107 cm
Height : 154 cm
Depth : 6 cm

Description

This elegant late 19th century French mirror features a refined rectangular form with a gently arched top, characteristic of classic French interior decoration from the period. The frame is crafted in carved wood and finished with traditional water gilding over a red bole ground, visible in several areas where the gilding has naturally worn with time. The surface retains a warm, rich patina, revealing the underlying preparation layers that are typical of antique gilded frames.The mirror retains its original mercury-silvered glass, which displays significant and authentic age-related foxing and oxidation. The surface shows scattered areas of desilvering, clouding, and oxidation spots, along with several larger patches where the reflective layer has partially deteriorated, exposing the glass beneath.

Dealer

Chic French Antiques

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Mobile : 0612049287

Showroom

La Ciotat 13600

These features create a beautifully atmospheric surface that is highly sought after in decorative antique mirrors.The glass also shows characteristic streaks, bubbles, and irregularities associated with traditional mercury mirror production of the 19th century. Despite the age-related wear, the mirror remains structurally sound and continues to function as a reflective surface while offering a highly decorative presence.The back retains its original wooden plank backing, secured with small nails, further confirming the authenticity and age of the piece.Overall, this mirror presents a striking example of late 19th century French craftsmanship, valued for both its elegant giltwood frame and its richly aged original mercury glass, which lends a unique and poetic character to the piece.