



Clock Allegorical To The Musical Putto Representing Love



1 800 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Restauré par notre atelier

Material : Bronze

Width : 32 cm

Height : 44 cm

Depth : 12 cm

Description

This mercury-gilt bronze clock, dating from the Charles X period around 1840, depicts a cherub with youthful, idealized features holding a lyre. He sits slightly off-balance on a mound, one leg relaxed while the other is bent, creating a supple and natural movement. His torso leans delicately towards the lyre, absorbed by the music. His bowed head and lowered gaze reinforce this impression of intimacy and gentleness, while the fluid yet precise movements of his arms harmoniously complement the musical gesture. He is identified as a putto, but the presence of a bow and quiver at his side suggests a more precise identification as Cupid, or Eros, the god of love in Greco-Roman mythology. This association of attributes--the lyre, symbol of the arts and harmony, and the bow with its arrows,

Dealer

Clock Prestige

Clockmaker specialised in 18th & 19th Century antique clocks and objects.

Mobile : 06-86-90-03-27

Lyon 69003

emblems of love--lends the composition a particularly rich allegorical dimension. It expresses the idea, dear to the 19th century, of a profound link between love and the arts, with music appearing here as a sensitive and universal manifestation of feelings.

The rectangular base is architecturally structured, treated in the manner of a classical entablature. The main frieze is richly decorated with a finely chiseled musical trophy, centered around a lyre and surrounded by instruments, musical scores, and foliate scrolls, while two winged putti enliven this frieze in a spirit that is both graceful and allegorical. The whole rests on delicately molded scroll feet, which reinforce the elegance and visual stability of the piece.

Above this base rises a naturalistic mound supporting the circular dial, whose bezel is adorned with water lily and pearl motifs. The dial itself, finely guilloché and decorated with floral patterns, features engraved Roman numerals, demonstrating the meticulous attention to detail. This mound, embellished with foliage and stylized plant elements, serves as a setting for the central figure.

The quality of execution of this clock is truly remarkable. The chasing is distinguished by its precision and finesse, both in the treatment of the faces and in that of the draperies, wings, and decorative elements. The modeling of the cherub's body reveals great skill, with supple volumes and particular attention paid to the rendering of flesh. The rich mercury gilding provides a luminous and homogeneous surface, highlighting the reliefs and accentuating the interplay of light and shadow. This costly and delicate technique was reserved for high-quality pieces, confirming the object's precious nature.

The original mechanism is intact and unaltered, with a wire suspension. The hour and half-hour strikes are played on an antique bell with a clear and authentic sound.

With its balanced forms, rich decoration, and subtle iconography, this clock perfectly embodies the aesthetic of the Charles X period, marked by a

return to classical inspiration tempered by a heightened taste for ornamentation and refinement. It perfectly illustrates the expertise of the bronze artisans of this era and is both a utilitarian and decorative object, elegantly combining poetry, music, and love. ORDERING AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM OUR WEBSITE