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Louis XV Armoire Curved Glass Display Cabinet Bronze Marquetry St Linke Paris 19th Century



3 800 EUR

Signature : école Française

Period : 19th century

Condition : Etat d'usage

Material : Wood marquetry

Width : 135

Height : 195

Depth : 62

Description

Louis XV-style salon display case, Parisian work of the Belle Époque, circa 1890-1910. Important display case in veneered wood and floral marquetry on oak carcass, opening to two glass doors, the curved front and sides, all enhanced by rich bronze ornamentation in the rocaille taste. The flowing curves of the silhouette, the edginess of the frames, the elegance of the leafy falls and the openwork crown place this piece of furniture in the great Parisian decorative tradition of the late 19th century, when Louis XV repertoires found new favor with refined interiors under the Belle Époque. The composition, with its beautiful breadth, seduces by the balance of its proportions and by the decorative quality of its inlaid panels, animated by floral reserves of a supple and graceful design. The bronzes, abundant without

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being intrusive, accompany the general movement of the furniture and underline the sinuous lines of the front. The overall effect is one of tempered sumptuousness, a luxury of good taste typical of Parisian production destined for large reception apartments and private mansions. By its ornamental vocabulary, the treatment of its curves and its decorative ambition, this showcase can be likened to the production of the Parisian workshops of the Faubourg Saint-Antoine working for the luxury houses and the great ensembliers active between the Faubourg Saint-Honoré and the representative districts. In a decorative rather than museal vein, it evokes the spirit of certain pieces distributed by Krieger, Mercier Frères, Monbro & Cie, or even by those houses which, in the wake of François Linke, adapted the grand rocaille taste to the demands of bourgeois and social decor in the Belle Époque. The association with Linke should naturally be understood as a kinship of language and milieu, not as an attribution. The oak carcass confirms a serious and stable workmanship, dressed in a warm-toned veneer that time has patinated with happiness. This beautiful antique patina, combined with the still assertive presence of the bronzes and the charm of the curved glass, lends the ensemble a real ceremonial presence. The display case retains its key; the lock works. For the sake of precision, it should be noted that a right-hand side glass has been replaced by a transparent methacrylate. There are also small cracks on both sides of the marquetry, as well as the usual signs of use and age consistent with the furniture's age and purpose. With its generous dimensions, 195 x 135 x 62 cm, this vitrine stands out as a first-rate reception piece, designed to accommodate porcelain, glassware, bronzes, collectibles or travel souvenirs. Its private mansion provenance further reinforces its character, recalling the primary function of these large pieces of ceremonial furniture: to showcase taste, light and collecting in an interior of distinction.