



Oval Jardiniere Sèvres Porcelain And Gilt-bronze, Napoleon III Period

1 250 EUR



Signature : Sèvres
Period : 19th century
Condition : Parfait état
Material : Porcelain
Width : 41 cm
Height : 10 cm
Depth : 19 cm

Description

Overview

This large oval centrepiece jardinière is executed in white porcelain with rich gilded decoration on a deep green ground, set within a finely gilded bronze mount. Through its ornamental vocabulary, neoclassical outline, and the combination of porcelain with chased gilt-metal mounts, the piece belongs clearly to the decorative production of the late 19th century, in the late Second Empire taste or early Third Republic, circa 1880. Comparable pieces listed on Proantic are frequently catalogued within the Napoleon III field, especially when they combine table jardinière forms, gilt-bronze mounts, and explicit references to the Sèvres aesthetic.

Attribution and stylistic context

From the photographs, the underside bears a blue

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underglaze mark in the spirit of interlaced Sèvres lettering. Since the Sèvres manufactory historically used interlaced blue marks, the visual reference is clear; however, without direct inspection of the porcelain body, the mount, and the mark itself, the most rigorous catalogue description is in the taste of Sèvres, or attributed to a Sèvres-related workshop / Sèvres tradition, rather than an absolute and definitive attribution. This is especially relevant because 19th-century French luxury porcelain workshops widely adopted Sèvres-inspired visual codes.

Decorative scheme

The exterior decoration is built on a refined contrast between a milky white ground and a broad deep green upper band, over which a lace-like gilt network unfolds. The main body is covered with a lozenge trellis punctuated by raised gilt dots, while a frieze of roses and small garlands enlivens the transition between the green band and the white ground below. This combination of Sèvres-style green, white porcelain reserves, and thick raised gilding is entirely consistent with the luxurious historicist taste of the 1860-1880 period. Comparable objects published on Proantic show this same decorative syntax: Sèvres-type porcelain, gilt trellis ornament, floral motifs, and gilt-bronze mounts.

Materials and techniques

The vessel is made of glazed hard-paste porcelain, probably painted and then enriched with heavy raised gilding, using decorative techniques typical of late 19th-century luxury porcelain production. The mount, in gilt bronze or high-quality gilt brass, frames both the upper rim and the lower body, with a continuous leaf-tip frieze at the base and small turned feet. The metalwork is not merely structural: it is integral to the ornamental conception of the object and fully aligned with the Napoleon III taste for richly mounted decorative wares. Comparable Proantic cache-pots and jardinières in porcelain with gilt-bronze mounts reflect the same dialogue

between ceramic surface and metal framing.

Form and function

Given its elongated proportions, shallow depth, and refined finish, the piece may be catalogued as a table jardinière, centrepiece bowl, or decorative centre-table planter. It would originally have been intended for use on a console, dining-table surtout, or salon table, either fitted with a floral arrangement or displayed empty as a formal decorative object. The restrained white interior further emphasizes the richness of the exterior ornament and the architectural quality of the mount. Proantic's Napoleon III jardinière and porcelain categories illustrate precisely this dual function between luxury utility and purely ornamental display.

Condition

Based on the photographs, the condition appears particularly good, with strong visual presence of the gilding, a clear and legible decorative scheme, complete mounts, and a clean interior porcelain surface. There are minor traces of age and use consistent with period production, but no visually significant alteration is apparent in the images. The preserved relief of the gilding and the freshness of the green ground contribute greatly to the decorative and commercial appeal of the piece. This assessment, naturally, remains based on photographic examination only.

Final appraisal

This jardinière brings together several of the qualities most sought after in late 19th-century French decorative porcelain: an elegant centrepiece form, a palette closely associated with the Sèvres taste, richly developed raised gilding, and a neoclassical gilt-bronze mount. On the basis of the visible elements, it stands as a highly decorative work, thoroughly representative of the Napoleon III fascination with luxurious objects inspired by the French 18th century and reinterpreted in the later 19th century.

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