



Napoleon III Casket With Tortoiseshell-effect Panels And Gilt Bronze Mount France, Late 19th



250 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Etat d'usage

Material : Bronze

Width : 13

Height : 9

Depth : 9

Description

Napoleon III Casket with Tortoiseshell-Effect Panels and Gilt Bronze Mount France, late 19th century
Dimensions: Height: 9 cm Width: 13 cm Depth: 9 cm
Elegant oval casket resting on an openwork gilt bronze base, finely crafted and richly ornamented. The mount features a refined decorative scheme composed of scrolling motifs and stylised vine leaves, unfolding fluidly across both the base and the lid, creating a composition that is at once structured and animated. The body is clad in panels with a tortoiseshell effect, displaying warm amber and deep brown tones with a pleasing visual depth. The contrast between the richness of the panels and the luminosity of the gilt bronze gives the piece a balanced and sophisticated decorative presence. The lid, adorned in continuity with the

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vegetal vocabulary of the mount and topped with a delicately cast finial, opens to reveal an interior lined with fabric, now gently aged over time. A French work from the late 19th century, characteristic of refined Napoleon III production, where historical inspiration meets a growing freedom in decorative expression. Condition: Overall good condition. Wear consistent with age, including wear to the interior fabric. Gilt bronze mount in good condition, with a soft and even patina.

Gallery View This casket stands out for the finesse of its design and the subtlety of its ornamental language. While still rooted in a classical decorative tradition, the vine leaf motifs here take on a more fluid and organic movement. The lines loosen, the forms become more expressive, already suggesting the emerging sensibilities that would soon flourish in Art Nouveau. The piece thus reflects a particularly interesting transitional moment, where the decorative vocabulary of the 19th century begins to evolve towards a more naturalistic and dynamic approach to ornament. The tortoiseshell-effect panels, with their depth and tonal variations, reinforce this impression of living material, echoing the vegetal forms of the mount. The result is a harmonious and expressive object, whose presence extends well beyond its original utilitarian function. A refined and characterful decorative piece, ideal for bringing warmth and sophistication to an interior.