



Elegant Writing Desk In Precious Wood Marquetry, Second Empire Period, Circa 1860, Attributed To



1 400 EUR

Signature : Paul Sormani

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Wood marquetry

Description

Elegant precious wood marquetry writing desk, Second Empire period, circa 1860, attributed to the renowned cabinetmaker Paul Sormani. A major figure in Parisian cabinetmaking in the second half of the XIXe century, Sormani stood out for the exceptional quality of his craftsmanship and the refinement of his creations, meeting the demands of a prestigious clientele during the reign of Napoleon III, notably in the entourage of Eugénie de Montijo. This model is crafted in rosewood and rosewood veneer, delicately highlighted with fine ebony fillets, creating an elegant contrast characteristic of the Second Empire taste. The top is framed by a fine brass baguette and adorned in its center with a monogrammed "Hélène" escutcheon, probably a private commission, bringing an intimate and

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refined dimension to the ensemble. The original lock, engraved "P. Sormani, 10 rue Charlot Paris", is a precious element of attribution and testifies to the care taken in manufacture. The complete interior has retained all its authenticity, which is particularly sought-after for this type of object. The whole set is in a very good state of preservation. It was made in Italy. Born in Italy in 1817, Paul Sormani moved to Paris, where he quickly developed a flourishing business.

Awarded prizes at the major Universal Exhibitions of 1849, 1855 and 1862, he reached the peak of his career in the 1860s, particularly after moving to rue Charlot. His productions, inspired by Louis XV and Louis XVI styles, are fully in line with the eclectic aesthetic of the Second Empire. A high-quality display object, both decorative and functional, emblematic of the savoir-faire of the great Parisian workshops of the XIXe century