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Cube Marquetry Coffee Table In The Transition Louis XV - Louis XVI Style.



1 200 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Wood marquetry

Description

Elegant oval-shaped coffee table, known as a writing table, resting on four slender curved legs, directly inspired by models from the end of the reign of Louis XV, at the cusp of the Transition style. The regular oval-shaped waistband opens with a drawer at the front. This conceals a writing drawer and a compartmentalized interior with small compartments for writing utensils. This feature recalls the intimate use of these small pieces of salon furniture, designed to accompany daily activities in the refined interiors of the 18th century. The top is encircled by an elegant 18th-century bronze openwork gallery, reused here. This type of reuse of antique elements, far from being anecdotal, is part of a well attested practice of late 19th century workshops, keen to reinforce the visual authenticity of their stylish

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productions by integrating carefully selected antique pieces. The entire piece of furniture is adorned with "bottomless cube" marquetry, deployed with great consistency on the top, the belt as well as the crotch shelf. This trompe-l'oeil decoration, composed of a precise assembly of lozenges forming a perspective cube, is based on a subtle optical game in which the rigor of execution entirely determines the relief effect. Particularly fashionable in the years 1760-1780, this type of frisage is in line with the taste for geometric compositions and clever visual effects. It was widely used in Parisian workshops in the circle of Jean-François Oeben, whose decorative research helped popularize its use. Examination of the construction reveals a clear desire to reproduce traditional 18th-century techniques: drawers mounted with wide dovetails, backs assembled using old-fashioned processes, combined use of beech and softwood for the frame and secondary parts, hand-sawn lines inside the belt.... These characteristics, combined with a worked patina, reflect a quest for authenticity in the implementation. This is a work in the style of the late 19th century, in a particularly accomplished historicist spirit. This production is part of a tradition of workshops seeking to faithfully recreate 18th-century furniture, in terms of both form and technique, for a clientele wishing to furnish interiors in an old-fashioned taste. This approach can be likened to that developed in the tradition of André Mailfert, where the use of old woods, traditional techniques and studied patinas contributes to a convincing re-reading of antique furniture. In this context, this table seduces by the quality of its execution, the coherence of its decoration and the accuracy of its stylistic interpretation, offering a successful balance between historical fidelity and decorative aesthetics. Dimensions : Height : 74 cm Width : 48 cm Depth : 35 cm Condition : The piece has been cleaned and re-varnished, restoring the legibility of the decoration and highlighting the rich contrasts of the marquetry. It

is now in very good condition.