



Napoleon III Period Box In Blackened Wood With Porcelain Bottles.



280 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Etat d'usage

Material : Wood marquetry

Description

Charming Napoleon III period box in blackened wood, probably pearwood, adorned with an inlaid decoration of brass and noble materials in the taste of Second Empire historicist productions.

The lid features a central cartouche of finely cut and engraved brass scrolls, set against a red tortoiseshell background. This decoration frames a central reserve engraved with the initials "S.R.", testifying to the box's early personalization.

Delicate ivory fleurons punctuate the ends of the decoration, while fine brass fillets harmoniously underline the object's contours. The perimeter of the lid is highlighted by a guilloché baguette whose gentle undulations subtly catch the light.

This decorative work evokes the baguettes and frames of 17th- and 18th-century production, particularly in the Flemish and Dutch schools,

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where guilloche enabled surfaces to be enlivened by delicate plays of light. The interior contains two original porcelain covered flasks, housed in their respective compartments. The latter feature a hand-painted decoration of polychrome flowers embellished with foliage, scrolls and gilded fillets, in the spirit of 19th-century Parisian production. Both flasks bear a painted mark with the letter "L" below the base. This type of box was generally used to store tea, a precious commodity associated with the refinement of 19th-century bourgeois interiors. The two containers made it possible to preserve different varieties while protecting them from humidity and odors. The box retains its original functional lock and small key. The hinges are also original. The interior is sheathed in a yellow moiré fabric with floral decoration, later but perfectly harmonious with the overall aesthetics of the box.

Concerning condition, the set is in very fine overall preservation. The varnish has been relacquered and repolished. The inlays are well preserved, with no notable missing parts. One of the porcelain stoppers shows visible old gluing, but is not missing. French work of the Napoleon III period, second half of the 19th century.

Dimensions: Width: 15.5 cm Depth: 10.6 cm

Height: 12.3 cm