



Important Vitrine By J. Zwiener, Louis XVI Style, Palissandre Gilt-bronze And Meissen Porcelain



37 500 EUR

Signature : Joseph-Emmanuel Zwiener (1848-1925)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Rosewood

Width : 113 cm

Height : 140 cm

Depth : 35 cm

Description

Provenance

This important vitrine is signed J. Zwiener on the reverse. Joseph-Emmanuel Zwiener was one of the notable luxury cabinetmakers active in Paris during the late nineteenth century. Of German origin, he established his Paris workshop on rue de la Roquette and became known for high-quality furniture inspired by the great French eighteenth-century styles, enriched with finely cast and chased gilt-bronze mounts. His production was recognised at international exhibitions, particularly for the richness of its mounts and the precision of its craftsmanship.

Description

Louis XVI style display vitrine with a tripartite façade, composed of a large central solid door flanked by two glazed side doors. The design is

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highly symmetrical and richly ornamented, combining precious wood veneers, decorative parquet panels, moulded frames and an extensive gilt-bronze decorative programme. The central door is mounted with a large figural composition representing Erato, the Muse of Poetry, shown as a dancing female figure holding a tambourine, raised above a classical pedestal supported by two female herm figures. This central ornament belongs to the celebrated late nineteenth-century repertoire of decorative bronzes and follows the model exhibited by Christofle at the Paris Exposition Universelle in 1878.

The upper section is decorated with floral garlands, tied ribbons, birds, suspended bouquets and ornamental trophies. The lower register is composed of large acanthus scrolls, cornucopia motifs, foliage, flowers and female term figures, creating a dense but balanced decorative composition. The side uprights are enriched with foliate drops, beaded borders, sabots, collars and gilt-bronze corner mounts. The upper part is further distinguished by two hand-painted Meissen porcelain plaques, each depicting a gallant scene in a landscape, adding a rare pictorial element to this type of cabinet.

Technique and materials

Veneered wood and precious wood construction, brown veined marble top, glazed doors, glass shelves, hand-painted Meissen porcelain plaques and extensive chased gilt-bronze mounts. The bronze work is of very high quality, with finely rendered foliage, faces, ribbons, flowers and ornamental details.

Dating

Late nineteenth century. The dating corresponds to the Louis XVI revival interpreted in the Parisian Belle Époque taste, the quality of the gilt-bronze mounts, the inclusion of painted porcelain plaques and the refined construction associated with luxury Parisian cabinetmaking of the period.

Condition

Very good condition. According to the information provided, the gilding is original and the bronzes have been professionally cleaned. The cabinet retains a strong decorative presence, with the veneers, marble, glazing, shelves and mounts preserved in very good overall condition.

Function and display

A display cabinet intended for objets d'art, porcelain, crystal or collector's pieces. Its richly decorated façade and relatively compact proportions make it suitable for an elegant presentation in a salon, gallery, library or refined classical interior.

Dimensions

height - 140 cm

width - 113 cm

depth - 35 cm