



Louis XVI Flat Desk, Stamped "fidelys Schey," 18th Century

8 850 EUR



Signature : Fidelys SCHEY

Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Mahogany

Length : 160 cm

Width : 89 cm

Height : 76 cm

Description

An elegant flat-topped desk from the Louis XVI period, crafted from solid mahogany and mahogany veneer, stamped "F. SCHEY" on the base, the work of Fidelys Schey, who was certified as a master cabinetmaker in Paris on February 5, 1777. Originally from the Duchy of Baden, Schey established himself on Rue du Faubourg Saint-Antoine, where he quickly earned an excellent reputation for the quality of his furniture, primarily crafted in the Louis XVI style with a preference for mahogany and finely chiseled bronze. This desk features a perfectly balanced design, characteristic of Parisian Neoclassicism of the 1780s. The front features five drawers, arranged in two side sections--the right section with two drawers and the left section with a large drawer designed to resemble two

Dealer

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drawers--flanking a wide central drawer that runs the full width of the piece. Each drawer is fitted with dovetail joints and retains its original gilded bronze lock plates, richly chased with ribbons, foliage, and pearls, in the purest Louis XVI decorative style. The top is upholstered in its original havana-colored leather, decorated with a delicate gilded scroll pattern framed by a wide amaranth-colored border. It is encircled along its entire perimeter by a gilt-bronze molding, an elegant protective feature found on the most refined writing desks of the late 18th century. Both sides display remarkable functional refinement: each conceals a sliding writing shelf, also lined with gold-embossed leather featuring a small iron pattern, providing an additional work surface particularly prized in prestigious writing desks. The piece rests on four tapered leg casings, adorned with inlays of contrasting veneer simulating fluting, and ending in closed bronze feet mounted on original slender casters--a detail that speaks to the quality of craftsmanship in this Parisian piece. The mahogany veneer displays a superb flamed grain, harmoniously highlighted by the darker mahogany frames. The proportions are particularly elegant, with a generously open waistband offering excellent comfort of use. The "F. SCHEY" mark, clearly visible below the waistband, confirms the attribution to Fidelys Schey, whose pieces are highly sought after today for the simplicity of their lines, the quality of their craftsmanship, and their perfect embodiment of Parisian Louis XVI furniture. Despite a relatively short career (1777-1788), Schey produced a significant number of beautifully crafted desks, secretaries, chests of drawers, and tables; several of his works are now part of public collections and are regularly featured in major international auctions. This desk is a remarkable example of Parisian cabinetmaking from the late reign of Louis XVI. It captivates as much with the purity of its design as with its excellent craftsmanship, the understated richness of its bronze fittings, and the presence of its original

functional elements, notably the two leather-covered side pull handles.Period: Louis XVI, circa 1780-1785.Cabinetmaker: Fidelys SCHEY (master cabinetmaker in 1777).Mark: F. SCHEY.Materials: solid mahogany and mahogany veneer, original leather with small iron studs, finely chiseled and gilded bronze fittings.Distinguishing features: five drawers, two sliding side writing shelves, a gilded bronze ingot holder, and original casters and glides.This is a high-quality Parisian desk, embodying all the characteristics for which Fidelys Schey's work is renowned today: elegant proportions, classical simplicity, high-quality materials, and remarkable finesse of craftsmanship. A collector's piece, perfectly suited for a high-end antique gallery or a prestigious classical interior.It measures 160 cm in length, 89 cm in width, and 76 cm in height.

Fidelys SCHEY