



PROANTIC
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Plate - "a La Molette" Gilding On Porcelain From The Nast Manufactory - Paris - Empire Period



3 500 EUR

Signature : Manufacture de NAST à PARIS

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Porcelain

Diameter : 24 cm

Description

The central basin features an exceptional scene depicting a young woman draped in the classical style, an allegory of "Germinal," the seventh month of the French Revolutionary calendar. Dressed in a dress in shades of purple, she is depicted in an architectural setting opening onto a landscape, kneeling on cushions and holding a light veil, in the spirit of neoclassical representations inspired by antiquity and early 19th-century allegories. The panel is entirely covered with a rich gold background, embellished with a series of circular medallions connected by linear motifs and stylized knots on a white background. The border is adorned with a large frieze executed with a roller, forming a geometric relief decoration of the kymation type, typical of the rich roller gilding employed by the Nast

Dealer

LA METAIRIE

French porcelain of 1700 / 1820

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workshop in the early 19th century. Provenance: Former collection of the BETMANN family, one of the most powerful German banking dynasties of the 18th and 19th centuries, based in Frankfurt am Main. In 1748, they founded the famous Gebrüder Bethmann ("Bethmann Brothers") bank, which quickly became one of Europe's leading financial institutions.

Mark(s): Painted in gold:

"Nast in Paris by Patent of

Invention," Dimensions: Diameter 24

cm, Condition: PERFECT CONDITION, Period:

EMPIRE, Remarks: Minimal signs of wear. The

wheel-gilding technique gives the porcelain a very precious look, almost as if one were dealing

with silverware or chiseled bronze rather than

simple ceramics. Since the reliefs are imprinted

directly in gold before firing, the decorative

surface gains truly exceptional depth and a

luminous quality. Unlike gilding applied with a

brush, which generally remains smooth and

uniform, wheel-gilding creates a rich interplay of

textures and reflections. When light falls on it,

each motif captures the light differently,

producing subtle variations between matte,

glossy, and slightly satin-finish areas. This

technique brings the porcelain's surface to life and

enhances the sophistication of the design. The

resulting friezes often evoke the chiseled work on

gilded bronze, the trims of precious fabrics, or

even certain motifs from ancient architecture. This

technical mastery was an integral part of the

luxurious style that the Nast manufactory had

developed during the Empire. At that time,

porcelain was no longer merely an everyday

object: it was a true decorative piece, designed to

dazzle with the richness of its ornamentation and

the quality of its craftsmanship. With these

extremely refined gilded reliefs, each piece took

on an almost architectural appearance. Light

played with the depth of the motifs, and the gold

sparkled brilliantly.