



PROANTIC
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White And Gold Porcelain Travel Set - Empire Period, France, Circa 1805-1815.



480 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Porcelain

Width : cafetière 17 cm tasse 6 cm

Diameter : soucoupe 10 cm bol 10 cm

Height : cafetière 18 cm tasse 8 cm

Description

White and Gold Porcelain Travel Set - Empire period, France, circa 1805-1815 A rare and elegant white porcelain travel set with rich mercury gilding, likely originally part of a travel set contained within a case lined with leather or fine wood. The set consists of a coffee pot with a lid, two cups with matching saucers, and a small bowl (likely intended for sugar), in a configuration typical of the refined personal sets designed for high-society travelers during the First Empire. The aesthetic is fully in keeping with the French Empire style: pure, architectural forms, and pristine white surfaces enlivened by sumptuous, continuous gilding that completely covers the interiors of the cups and accentuates the rims, feet, spout, and handle. The coffee pot features a slender profile with a flame-shaped

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handle and an elegantly shaped spout--elements that recall the work of the finest French manufacturers of the early nineteenth century.

The Two Cups: A Refined Distinction Between Men and Women

The most interesting aspect of the set lies in the presence of two cups that are deliberately different in shape, likely designed for a male and a female user. The female cup has a wider, more rounded body, with a soft, almost hemispherical silhouette. Its broad belly symbolically evokes the womb--a frequent motif in the formal language of Neoclassicism, where full forms evoke fertility, abundance, and femininity. The rounded profile also provides greater thermal capacity and a more comfortable grip. The male cup, by contrast, is characterized by a sleeker, more composed line. The profile is more compact, with walls that rise continuously toward a slightly flared rim, giving the cup as a whole a greater sense of verticality and geometric precision. This design reflects the Neoclassical taste for balance and moderation, traditionally associated with the male figure.