



Transitional Chest Of Drawers, Stamped "Jean LAPIE," 18th Century



2 650 EUR

Signature : Jean LAPIE

Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Marquetry

Length : 96 cm

Height : 85 cm

Depth : 46 cm

Description

Louis XV-Louis XVI Transition-period chest of drawers Stamped "Jean LAPIE," a master cabinetmaker who received his certification in Paris on July 31, 1762. Elegant Transition-period chest of drawers, stamped Jean LAPIE, one of the most sought-after Parisian cabinetmakers of the second half of the 18th century. Jean Lapie, known as "Le Jeune," was certified as a master in 1762 and established his workshop on Rue de Charenton, in the Faubourg Saint-Antoine. His relatively limited body of work is distinguished by its high quality of craftsmanship and refined marquetry, which foreshadow the neoclassical taste while retaining the fluidity inherited from the Louis XV style. This chest of drawers features three large drawers arranged in three rows on the front. Its understated and perfectly balanced lines

Dealer

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elegantly illustrate the Transition period, when the curved forms of the Louis XV era gradually merged with the architectural rigor of the Louis XVI style. The front is entirely veneered with a remarkable rosewood veneer arranged in a herringbone pattern, framed by contrasting marquetry borders. The drawers are highlighted by an elegant ebony or blackened wood frame that particularly accentuates the marquetry panels. The sides, also veneered, consist of wide panels framed by blackened borders, reflecting meticulous craftsmanship on all visible surfaces. The piece rests on four slightly arched legs, characteristic of the Transition period. The front legs are finished with slender gilded bronze feet, while the side posts feature beautiful bronze finials with neoclassical decoration inspired by fluted pilasters, lending the piece great distinction. The rich trim of chiseled and gilded bronze is of remarkable quality. The drop-down handles, suspended between finely carved rosettes, harmonize perfectly with the lock plates decorated with ribbons and acanthus leaves. This perfectly proportioned set of bronze elements elegantly highlights the geometric composition of the front. The piece is topped with a white marble slab veined with gray, molded around the edges and cut at the corners, offering a refined contrast to the warm tones of the veneer. The quality of the construction is also evident in its sturdy frame and perfectly fitted drawers, hallmarks of the craftsmanship of the great Parisian workshops of the Faubourg Saint-Antoine. The "J. LAPIE" stamp, visible on the underside of the piece, confirms its attribution to Jean Lapie (1734-after 1790), a Parisian master cabinetmaker whose works are now held in several public collections and are particularly sought after by connoisseurs of 18th-century furniture. His work is characterized by refined geometric marquetry, the use of precious woods, and a remarkable quality of craftsmanship. This chest of drawers is a beautiful example of Parisian furniture from the Transition period, combining elegant lines,

delicate marquetry, and high-quality bronze fittings in a particularly attractive condition. With its prestigious maker's mark, its understated and timeless decoration, and the quality of its craftsmanship, it will naturally find its place in a collection of 18th-century furniture or in a classic and refined interior.