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Limoges Enamel Box With Engraved Glass And Chased Bronze In The Louis XVI Style, Late 19th Ce



650 EUR

Signature : Lucien Delrive pour LIMOGES

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Diameter : 14.5 cm

Height : 7 cm

Description

This decorative art piece from the Napoleon III era or the Belle Époque embodies the absolute refinement of French goldsmithing. The central and masterful element of this creation is a large portrait of a woman in polychrome enamel. This feminine profile, of timeless grace, bears the signature of master enameler Lucien Delrive. An artist of rare exacting standards, Lucien Delrive (signed L. Delrive) was an exceptional student of Alfred Meyer. Master Alfred Meyer is historically recognized for having brilliantly revitalized the Limoges enameling techniques at the end of the 19th century. As a testament to his expertise, Delrive is also the author of a seminal theoretical work. This book is titled *Les Émaux de Limoges, à la portée de tous* (Limoges Enamels: Accessible to All), by Lucien Delrive, a student

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of Alfred Meyer, published by Bourgeois Aîné in 1890. The enameled medallion is magnificently mounted on a removable lid that crowns the entire structure. The gilded bronze mount is richly sculpted and hand-chiseled according to the highest standards of artistic craftsmanship. It features an elegant Louis XVI-style design, reflecting the principles of classical ornamentation and symmetry. It displays a delicate garland of flowers and foliage, as well as a ribbon bow of great fluidity. The body of the box consists of thick glass or crystal panels, meticulously cut and engraved. The engraved motifs around the perimeter capture the light spectacularly and create a striking play of transparency. Upon opening this precious case, one discovers a meticulously maintained interior featuring its original mirrored back. This interior mirror doubles the brilliance of the light and creates a sense of depth ideal for showcasing jewelry or small collectibles. The piece as a whole is currently in good overall condition. The overall structure is perfectly sound, with no major chips or missing pieces in the engraved crystals or the Delrive enamel. A simple patina of age has settled on the metal, and a light cleaning of the bronze will restore the gilding to its original luster and appearance. The asking price for this historic box has been adjusted accordingly to account for this necessary surface care. The object's dimensions are harmoniously proportioned, with a total diameter of 14.5 centimeters and a height of 7 centimeters. This signed box set represents a rare opportunity for art lovers and collectors of cataloged Limoges enamels. It will find its perfect place in a display case or on an elegant dressing table. You can follow me on Instagram by clicking this link:

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