



Clock Musical Cupid In Mercury-gilt Bronze



1 300 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Restauré par notre atelier

Material : Bronze

Width : 23 cm

Height : 33 cm

Depth : 8 cm

Description

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Exceptional mantel clock in finely
chased bronze, mercury-gilt, dating
to circa 1850, from the Charles X period. The
quality of its
composition, the richness of its decoration and
the remarkable presence
of the figure of a Musician Cupid make it a
particularly appealing work
of art. The movement bears the stamp of the
clockmaker Guyerdet, a
well-known name in Parisian horology during the
Restoration period,
referenced in Tardy's celebrated Dictionnaire des
horlogers
français. This signature is of particular interest for

Dealer

Clock Prestige

Clockmaker specialised in 18th & 19th Century antique clocks
and objects.

Mobile : 06-86-90-03-27

Lyon 69003

the attribution and authenticity of the clock, as Guyerdet is documented on several gilt-bronze clocks from this period. The mercury gilding, applied with great finesse, gives the whole a warm and deep brilliance, characteristic of the finest French productions of the first half of the 19th century.

The composition rises with remarkable verticality and unfolds from top to bottom with great elegance. At the summit stands a graceful Musician Cupid, or Cupid, depicted as a young winged genius, nude in the antique manner and animated by a delicate yet natural pose. Standing with a gentle twist of the body, one leg elegantly crossing the other, the young figure slightly inclines his head, while his widely spread wings emphasize the lightness of his silhouette. His youthful face, with regular features framed by abundant curly hair, expresses an almost dreamy sweetness. He holds a superb lyre in his arms, the traditional attribute of Apollo and a symbol of music and harmony, its sides richly chased with scrolls, flowers and vegetal ornaments. The particularly careful treatment of the hands, with the fingers naturally resting upon the strings, together with the delicacy of the wings and hair, demonstrates an exceptional level of sculptural modelling and chasing.

At the centre of the composition is the circular dial, set within an architectural pedestal of sober and monumental lines. Its perimeter is

highlighted by an elegant beaded frieze, while the gilded ground is animated by finely chased decoration. The hours are indicated by Roman numerals, while the hands provide a particularly elegant graphic contrast. The centre of the dial is enriched with a radiating ornamental design and floral motifs, contributing fully to the decorative richness of the clock. The pedestal rests upon a rectangular architectural base delicately adorned with vegetal garlands, scrolls, flowers and geometric friezes, in a decorative vocabulary directly inspired by Antiquity.

On the right-hand side is a remarkable trophy of the attributes of Love, including a bow, a quiver filled with arrows and intertwined foliage. The long curve of the bow admirably balances the silhouette of Cupid and introduces a particularly elegant upward movement into the composition. The floral ornaments, scrolling elements and finely chased details of this attribute further enhance the precious character of the whole. The lower section is decorated with an important applied ornament forming a rich trophy of flowers, foliage, ribbons and attributes, arranged around a profusely floral central composition. The flowing ribbons, bouquets and leafy scrolls create an impression of movement and decorative abundance, while the lower part is adorned with a sumptuous frieze of vegetal motifs and stylised palmettes. The whole rests on four richly ornamented feet, terminating in large foliate

scrolls and rosettes, giving the clock a particularly majestic stance.

This clock is distinguished above all by the exceptional harmony of its composition, in which the sculpted figure, the architectural pedestal and the richly decorated trophies are balanced with great refinement.

The theme of Musician Cupid, associated with the lyre, bow and quiver, gives the work a particularly poetic iconography, evoking music, harmony, beauty and the pleasures of Love. The remarkable quality of the chasing, the precision of the details and, above all, the presence of exceptionally luminous mercury gilding contribute to its outstanding character. Through its authenticity, condition, quality of decoration and the presence of the Guyerdet stamp, this clock constitutes a very fine example of French decorative horology from the first half of the 19th century. A distinguished and highly decorative piece, whose sculptural silhouette and radiant gilding allow it to command attention equally well in a collection of antique clocks or in an interior seeking an exceptionally elegant French work of art.

Original movement intact and unaltered.

Silk-thread suspension.

Striking of the hours and half-hours on an old bell, producing a clear and authentic tone.