



PROANTIC
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Portico Empire Clock "the Eagle And The Great Sun", Circa 1810



1 450 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Restauré par notre atelier

Material : Bronze

Width : 20 cm

Height : 41 cm

Depth : 12 cm

Description

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INFORMATION FROM OUR WEBSITE

Elegant and spectacular Empire-period portico clock, made circa 1810, this work of particularly imposing proportions displays an architecture of remarkable elegance, combining the depth of black marble with the sumptuous brilliance of finely chased and mercury-gilded bronze.

Through the harmony of its architectural composition, the richness of its decoration and the exceptional quality of its craftsmanship, this clock stands as a remarkable testament to the refinement of French decorative arts under the First Empire.

Dealer

Clock Prestige

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

Mobile : 06-86-90-03-27

Lyon 69003

The composition is organized around an imposing circular white enamel dial, surrounded by a richly mercury-gilded bronze bezel, delicately chased with vegetal friezes and geometric motifs. It is surmounted by a spectacular openwork crest composed of foliage, scrolling acanthus and a monumental radiating palmette. On either side, two powerful black marble columns, crowned with architectural capitals and gilt-bronze bobèches, majestically frame the composition. Beneath the dial stands a remarkable eagle with wings widely outstretched, the emblematic symbol of the Empire, surrounded by abundant oak foliage. Yet the most extraordinary element is undoubtedly its gigantic sun pendulum: of truly exceptional dimensions, it features at its centre a radiant face surrounded by an impressive succession of long alternating rays. A genuine decorative sculpture in its own right, this monumental sun animates the entire lower section of the clock and lends the composition a spectacular presence.

This clock is fitted with a remarkable knife-edge suspension system, a relatively uncommon technical device on traditional clocks. This particularly sophisticated construction makes it possible to support and guide with great precision a pendulum of such exceptional size and weight. The suspension blade, combined with its pivoting mechanism, ensures a regular, uniform and perfectly linear oscillation, reducing unwanted friction and thereby contributing to the

stability of the movement. The presence of such a system demonstrates the particular care devoted to the mechanical design of this clock, whose impressive pendulum required a technical solution specifically adapted to its monumental dimensions.

Through its authenticity, architectural proportions and the extraordinary richness of its decoration, this clock represents a particularly captivating work from the beginning of the 19th century.

The combination of deep black marble and mercury-gilded bronze creates a contrast of great elegance, while the imperial eagle and spectacular sun pendulum give it a powerful and immediately recognizable identity.

Rarely does a portico clock combine monumentality, decorative refinement and mechanical sophistication with such success. A spectacular collector's piece whose sculptural beauty and imposing presence make it far more than a simple instrument for measuring time: a true work of art and architecture.

Original movement, unaltered, striking the hours and half-hours on an antique bell.