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18th-century European Dressing Table And Secretary Desk In Red Lacquer With A Mirror And Gilded



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Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Gilted wood

Description

An exceptional and highly decorative 18th-century European dressing table and writing desk, crafted from red lacquered wood and richly adorned with gilded motifs. It features a large mirror with scalloped edges, a folding flap that serves as a writing surface, a fitted interior, and a drawer in the lower section. This original piece combines the functions of a dressing mirror, a dressing table, and a secretary desk, reflecting the refined taste for luxurious and multifunctional personal furniture in the 18th century. The exterior is finished in a superb deep red lacquer, richly embellished with hand-applied gilded ornamentation. The slanted lid features, at its center, an elegant classical-style urn surrounded by foliage scrolls and stylized floral motifs; this gilded decoration extends onto the upper surfaces

Dealer

Florin Antiques

Meubles et Objets d'art du XVIIIe et XIXeme

Tel : 0034 671 362 406

Mobile : 0034 671 362 406

PASEO RECOLETOS 31

Madrid 28004

and the architecturally styled borders. Opening the flap reveals a well-organized interior with numerous small compartments, originally intended for writing instruments, correspondence, personal accessories, or toiletries. When lowered, the panel provides a practical writing surface. Above it stands an elegant arched mirror framed in gilded wood, flanked by slender red-and-gold posts topped with decorative fleurons. The mirror is topped by a rich, openwork, carved, and gilded crown, composed of scroll motifs and a central palmette, giving the piece a particularly refined architectural silhouette. A drawer in the lower section provides additional storage space and is accented with decorative gilded metal trim. The combination of red lacquer, gilded ornamentation, an interior fitted for writing, and the integrated mirror makes this piece a particularly appealing example of 18th-century European decorative furniture. Its compact proportions suggest that it was designed as a refined personal object rather than as a conventional, large writing desk. Preserved in very good original condition, this piece retains a strong decorative presence as well as the charm of an authentic historical patina.

Origin Europe
Period 18th century
Style Baroque and Rococo influences
Materials Lacquered wood, gilded decoration, mirror, and gilded metal trim
Dimensions -- Closed
Height: 96 cm (37.8 in.)
Width: 43 cm (16.9 in.)
Depth: 25 cm (9.8 in.)
Condition Very good original condition considering its age, with minor signs of wear, marks, and surface variations characteristic of an 18th-century piece. The surfaces, weathered by time and subtle wear, contribute to its authentic character. Please examine the photographs carefully for a detailed assessment of its condition. A rare and elegant 18th-century European piece of furniture, combining practical ingenuity with exceptionally decorative aesthetics; it serves as both a dressing table and a desk, all enhanced by a red lacquer

finish.Keywords: 18th-century dressing table,
antique dressing table, desk, red lacquer, gilded
decoration, dressing table mirror, freestanding
secretary, drop-leaf secretary, European furniture,
Baroque furniture, Rococo furniture, Florin
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