



Mahogany Empire-style Secretary Desk With An Ornate Top, Northern Germany



13 500 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Restauré par notre atelier

Material : Mahogany

Width : 105cm

Height : 198cm

Depth : 53cm

Description

A two-part Empire-style secretary desk with an architectural design, made of mirrored burl mahogany veneer; it consists of a lower section with a drop-down panel and drawers, surmounted by an upper section reminiscent of a temple. The upper section features a stepped triangular pediment, flanked by two polished black-lacquered columns with gilded bases and capitals. The central door displays a slightly Gothic style, a characteristic detail of early Neoclassical furniture from Northern Germany influenced by the English Regency style. The lower section features a wide drop-down door concealing a refined interior layout: open niches, small drawers, and a central niche framed by light-wood inlaid columns. The back of this niche is adorned with figurative marquetry (depicting a

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horseman). The two lower drawers are adorned with bronze ring-shaped handles suspended from lion heads. This secretary desk is in the early Neoclassical Empire style of Northern Germany (the Hamburg/Altona and Schleswig-Holstein regions, notably Kiel and Lübeck). It is distinguished by: high-quality mahogany veneer, a rigorous architectural structure, black columns accented with gilded elements, Gothic-inspired door shapes, figurative marquetry on the interior, and an influence from the English Regency style (introduced through trade with the Hanseatic cities). Its design perfectly reflects the furniture tastes of the North German business bourgeoisie between 1805 and 1815. This is an authentic, high-quality piece of North German Empire-style furniture; its architectural design, the quality of its veneer, its columns, and its interior layout faithfully reflect the early phase of the Empire style in the Hanseatic region. It ranks among the iconic pieces of furniture found in the homes of the affluent bourgeoisie and is of major significance both in terms of art history and for collectors. Restored; surface treatment preserving the patina; hand-applied buffed varnish (shellac). A piece of remarkable beauty and harmony...!