



18th-century Antique Malouine Chest Of Drawers Made Of Solid Mahogany

3 200 EUR



Signature : Anonyme

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Solid wood

Description

This exceptional piece of cabinetry, crafted in the mid-18th century, perfectly embodies the prestige of Saint-Malo's traditional furniture. Carved from superb solid Cuban mahogany, this prestigious piece stands out for its lines of great aesthetic fluidity. Its front and side panels feature a beautiful, pronounced convex curve. This double sinuous curve gives the piece a three-dimensional silhouette that is both powerful and harmonious. The piece opens at the base with three large, perfectly fitted drawers stacked one above the other. Each drawer retains its original iron locks, which have been fully restored and are fully functional. A single central key allows for smooth operation of all the locking mechanisms. The original ornamentation consists of drooping pull handles and diamond-shaped

Dealer

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lock plates in richly chased gilded bronze. These period bronze pieces illuminate the dark, warm hue of the mahogany wood. The lower crossbar features a gracefully scalloped profile, cut into gentle volutes that lend the structure a sense of lightness. The front legs extend subtly downward, ending in small, characteristically curved feet. The solid wood top follows the sinuous curve of the cabinet's body with precision.

Historical details and designers: At that time, the concept of the modern individual "designer" did not yet exist. The creators of this artistic furniture were master cabinetmakers and shipwrights based in the corsair city. These artisans worked for the wealthy merchant class and the captains sailing for the East India Company. Inspired by Parisian designs in the Louis XIV and Regency styles, they adapted these forms to the technical and aesthetic constraints of the major ports. They primarily used precious imported exotic woods brought back by ships, such as mahogany from Santo Domingo or Cuba. This chest of drawers is a rare and refined historical testament to French port craftsmanship during the Age of Enlightenment.

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