



PROANTIC
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Musical Snuffbox With A Micromosaic Depicting "pliny's Doves," France, 1819-1838

18 500 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Width : 3.5

Diameter : 2

Height : 4.5



Description

A rare and exquisite musical snuffbox crafted from 18-karat gold, adorned with a unique micromosaic depicting the "Doves of Pliny," one of the most iconic motifs of classical antiquity. Created using the Roman micromosaic technique, the composition depicts four doves perched on the rim of a gilded cup and alludes to the famous mosaic at Hadrian's Villa in Tivoli. The image is framed by a rich blue border and set atop a lid richly adorned with floral motifs. The body of the box is crafted with exceptional care: the sides are decorated with a floral frieze, a guilloché background, and ornamental inlays at the corners. Inside is the musical mechanism, which has retained its original structure with fan-shaped reeds. Two keys are used to wind the mechanism and activate the melody. Hallmarks: French export

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hallmark featuring a rooster in profile (18-karat gold, 1819-1838), a teapot spout-shaped hallmark (likely a hallmark from an assay office or jewelry workshop).Dimensions: 4.5 x 3.5 cm. Height 2 cm. Medallion: 3.5 x 2.5 mm.Weight: 83 gCondition: Good. The musical mechanism has been completely overhauled.Origin: France, first half of the 19th century, export item for the European or Russian market.ID-ANTQ-15382