



Neogothic Harp By érard, 19th Century



4 500 EUR

Signature : Sebastian Erard, London

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Gilded wood

Width : 85 cm

Height : 170 cm

Depth : 45 cm

Description

Provenance France, Maison Érard, Paris. The instrument bears the inscription "Erard - Piano and Harp Maker - 13 rue du Mail, Paris" on the brass plate of the console. Maison Érard was one of the leading French instrument manufacturers of the 19th century and distinguished itself particularly in the production of pianos and harps. This example belongs to the decorative line in the Neo-Gothic style developed by the manufacturer during the 19th century. Description A large free-standing harp featuring particularly elaborate architecture, combining the instrument's traditional silhouette with a rich neo-Gothic vocabulary. The tall column is structured like an architectural element, with vertical panels, superimposed moldings, floral friezes, and motifs inspired by Gothic tracery. Its upper section takes

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the form of a monumental capital composed of trefoil arcades and niches housing figures in relief, several of which are associated with music. The scalloped base features the same decorative motifs. It is accented with gilded moldings and rests on zoomorphic figurative elements placed at the corners. The arched console retains its large engraved brass action plate as well as the visible tuning pegs and mechanical components. The soundbox and console feature a speckled maple veneer, whose warm tones contrast with the gilded parts. The piece as a whole is characterized by a strong architectural presence, enhanced by the verticality of the column and the interplay between light-colored wood surfaces, metal elements, and gilded decorations.

Technique and Materials Wood and speckled maple veneer, carved, molded, and gilded elements, applied decoration, engraved brass, and metal action. Strings and pedals preserved. The construction combines cabinetmaking, decorative carving, gilding, and instrument mechanics.

Date 19th century. The Neo-Gothic decoration, the arcades, the figures in niches, and the overall design correspond to historical models produced by the Érard company in the 19th century. In the absence of a clearly visible serial number in the photographs provided, no more precise date can be given.

Condition Original condition consistent with its age and use. Surface wear, small areas of loss and visible touch-ups to the gilding--particularly on certain corners and reliefs--as well as signs of wear on the wooden parts. The strings and mechanism are present. The musical function, mechanism adjustment, and tuning have not been checked.

Use and Purpose Antique musical instrument that can also serve as a significant decorative piece in a classical, historicist, or eclectic interior. For musical use, a preliminary inspection by a specialist in antique harps is recommended.

Dimensions height - 170 cm width - 85 cm depth - 45 cm

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