



Clock "the Young Girl Engraving Her Initials" Detouche, Circa 1850



800 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Restauré par notre atelier

Material : Bronze

Width : 30 cm

Height : 39 cm

Depth : 11 cm

Description

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INFORMATION FROM OUR WEBSITE
This elegant Louis-Philippe period mantel clock, dating to around 1850, is distinguished by the richness of its sculptural composition, the delicacy of its ornamentation and the warm lustre of its remarkable mercury-gilt finish in gold. Signed on the dial by C. Detouche, Supplier to the City of Paris, a clockmaking establishment documented in Tardy's **Dictionnaire des horlogers français**, it depicts a young girl delicately carving her initials into the bark of a tree. This poetic composition brings together the art of horology

Dealer

Clock Prestige

Clockmaker specialised in 18th & 19th Century antique clocks and objects.

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and the refined expression of 19th-century decorative sculpture.

The upper section is dominated by a tree stump with naturalistically rendered reliefs, beside which stands a young girl dressed in an elegantly draped gown, adorned with delicate floral motifs and finely chased passementerie. Leaning attentively towards the trunk, she appears to be inscribing her initials into the bark in an intimate and symbolic gesture evoking remembrance and affection. At her side, a large open fan, ribbons and botanical elements enrich the composition.

The white enamel dial, with black Roman numerals, is framed by a beaded bezel and harmoniously integrated into the sculptural ensemble. The architectural rectangular base features sumptuous decoration comprising foliate scrollwork, symmetrical volutes, floral bouquets and a central shell motif in relief. The scrolling feet, mouldings highlighted with ornamental friezes and finely chased foliage complete this animated silhouette, characteristic of the decorative taste of the Louis-Philippe period.

With its original subject, exceptional quality of execution and harmonious proportions, this mantel clock is a highly charming decorative piece, particularly representative of the craftsmanship of French bronziers and clockmakers in the mid-19th century. The mercury gilding in gold lends the ensemble a luminous

presence and remarkable depth of finish, enhancing every detail of its ornamentation. The combination of a delicately expressive figurative scene and a richly ornamented base gives the piece a distinctive personality. The signature of C. Detouche adds further horological interest to this composition, whose elegance and sculptural richness make it a sought-after collector's piece.

Original movement, unmodified, striking the hours and half-hours on an antique bell.