Writing Box With Boulle Marquetry In Tortoiseshell

8 500 EUR



Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Marquetry

Width : 33

Height : 9

Depth : 29,5

Description

An elegant writing box featuring Boulle marquetry, adorned with a rich decorative scheme of geometric patterns, birds, and foliate motifs.The lid, framed by a gilt-brass molding, showcases a composition with canted corners centered around a large octagonal medallion. This medallion features a symmetrical arrangement of bird heads, from whose beaks emerge scrolling tendrils. Finely chased scrolls, flourishes, and foliage surround these heads, culminating in a geometric form that encloses a stylized rosette. The corner spandrels echo these same decorative motifs, while a broad octagonal frieze of red tortoiseshell marquetry frames the central composition,which is itself bordered by delicate ebony and brass stringing.The piece exemplifies exquisite Boulle marquetry, combining chased

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brass with tortoiseshell. It employs a technique of "première-partie" and "contre-partie" between the lid and the sides, the latter of which are decorated with a continuous, uniform pattern of stylized scrolls.Designed as a slanted writing slope, the box opens from the top to reveal a natural wood interior. The lower section serves as a storage space for correspondence, including a dedicated compartment for inkwells and other writing accessories. The underside of the lid features a decorative wood-grain pattern, accented by an ebony border.A fine example of an 18th-century writing box, distinguished by its refined composition.Includes restorations consistent with age and maintenance.Dimensions: H 9 cm x W 33 cm x D 29.5 cm