Maison Alph Giroux Small Signed Cloisonné Hand Mirror With Its Original Box



1 490 EUR

Signature : maison Alphonce giroux

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Cloisonne

Width : 16

Height : 37

Depth : 2

Description

In very good condition, cloisonné, bronze, signed; this is a very beautiful and precious objectThe Maison Alphonse Giroux, " the 'merchant to the princes', is a major Parisian manufacturer of luxury furniture and accessories, whose products were intended for an aristocratic and bourgeois clientele. The company was established in 1799 at No. 7, Rue du Coq Saint-Honoré, and later moved to Boulevard des Capucines. Founded by François-Simon-Alphonse Giroux under the name "A. GIROUX à PARIS", the business was taken over by the Giroux children and remained in operation under the name " "Alphonse Giroux et Cie" until 1867, when management was taken over by Ferdinand Duvinage. The store founded by Giroux Sr. originally had its description frequently changed in the business directory,

Dealer

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suggesting a highly diversified range of activities. Specializing in paper and art supplies, it also restored paintings and offered novelty items and writing supplies: it sold writing sets, inkwells, and even toys. In fact, on June 6, 1818, he filed a patent for the kaleidoscope, which he also called the "transfigurator". This new toy was all the rage, and Alphonse Giroux thus attracted a clientele seeking luxury gifts. The store enjoyed success from the time of the Consulate onward, so much so that by the Restoration it had already become a major establishment. Consequently, Louis XVIII commissioned Alphonse Giroux to create New Year's gifts for the children of France: a golden carriage now housed at the Carnavalet Museum. The mother-of-pearl horses are harnessed in gold, and the carriage is adorned with emeralds and fitted with rock crystal windows. Shifting its focus to tabletterie and cabinetmaking around 1830, the store continued to supply, among other things, beautiful items suitable as gifts for children and ladies: toys, sewing kits, sewing tables, boxes, and mirrors. The aesthetic of Alphonse Giroux's creations often draws inspiration from 18th-century styles, but it is far from merely reproducing past designs. In fact, these creations are sometimes influenced by the Troubadour style, but they also embrace Japonism in the second half of the century. Alphonse Giroux's furniture and accessories thus draw on a variety of inspirations--true artistic creations by their makers--yet they are always the epitome of luxury. Such is the case with thebonheur-du-jour presented at the 1855 World's Fair, which captivated Empress Eugénie. This impressive piece of carved linden wood appears to be covered in climbing plants, which seem to take over the space and give it the air of having escaped from a fairy tale. It is now housed at the Château de Compiègne. Committed to offering the very best to its clientele, the store remains at the cutting edge of innovation. Thus, in the field of decorative arts, it partnered with Julien-Nicolas Rivart to create furniture inlaid with porcelain,

which remain unique examples of this technique.
Interested in optics, Giroux Sr. was not only the inventor of the kaleidoscope but also the exclusive licensee of the daguerreotype, in collaboration with theMaison Susse. Daguerre and Niépce granted him the rights to use the process in 1839, so the very first daguerreotypes--the precursors to cameras--were stamped "Alphonse Giroux," as were the first photographic papers supplied by the store. The Alphonse Giroux company was sold in 1867 to Duvinage, a cousin of Alphonse Giroux Jr., and was run by Duvinage's widow from 1874 to 1882. After a final takeover by Philippe and Arnut, the store closed permanently in 1885.Original text from Marc Maison's website; thank you