Longcase Clock With A Nautical Automaton, Wm Gib, Rotterdam, 18th Century.



5 000 EUR

Signature : William Gib

Period : 18th century

Condition : A restaurer

Material : Solid wood

Width : 48

Height : 220

Depth : 40

Description

An important and rare longcase clock of Anglo-Dutch manufacture, dating to circa 1770-1785, signed on the dial "Wm Gib Rotterdam" (William Gib).
The case, characterized by its slender and elegant proportions, is crafted from solid and veneered oak, bearing a warm, authentic period patina. The base rests on shaped bracket feet, while the central door features a molded, pointed-arch panel and an openwork brass escutcheon. The hood is topped with a refined "swan-neck" pediment, complete with carved rosettes and a central finial, flanked by turned, fluted columns with brass bases and capitals.
The exquisite arched dial, made of chased brass, is embellished at the four corners with gilt-bronze

Dealer

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spandrels depicting grotesque masks and foliate scrolls. It features:
A main dial with engraved Roman numerals for the hours, Arabic numerals for the minutes, stylized fleur-de-lis markers between the hours, and original openwork hands;
An off-center seconds dial in the upper section;
A moon-phase indicator in the lower section, finely hand-painted with a sailing ship and a lunar cycle scale;
A mechanical automaton set within the upper arch: a painted maritime scene depicting three galleons on a rough sea, with the central vessel rocking in rhythm with the pendulum.
The movement is a two-train, 8-day mechanical system with an hour-striking mechanism that sounds on a bell. The clock comes complete with its weights, pendulum, and crank-style winding key. Excellent overall state of preservation, with natural signs of age consistent with the period.

Measures 220 cm in height, 48 cm in maximum width, and approximately 40 cm in depth.