PROANTIC
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Clock Glass Cage Watchmaker: Vinventi Et Cie 1860



950 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Restauré par notre atelier

Material : Bronze

Width : 16 cm

Height : 26 cm

Depth : 12 cm

Description

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luxurious
four-glass
mantel clock from the Napoleon III period, circa 1860, signed on the
dial and stamped on the movement "A. J. Rodanet à
Paris", bearing the name of a Parisian clockmaker listed in
Tardy's Dictionary of French Clockmakers. This elegant
precision timepiece is distinguished by the noble architecture of its
gilt-bronze case, the transparency of its glazed panels and the
sophistication of its exposed movement. Its

Dealer

Clock Prestige

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

Mobile : 06-86-90-03-27

Lyon 69003

aesthetic, both rigorous
and refined, showcases the mechanical ingenuity
of nineteenth-century
horology, making this clock a remarkable
collector's piece
for both its quality of manufacture and its
technical interest.

The case
rests on a rectangular base with restrained yet
powerful lines, whose
successive mouldings emphasise the solidity and
stability of the whole.
The four corner uprights, featuring carefully
worked profiles, support
an overhanging upper cornice with several
stepped mouldings, lending
the composition an architectural silhouette and an
elegant presence.
The gilt-bronze framework forms a luminous
setting for four thick glass
panels with bevelled edges, whose transparency
allows the movement to
be admired from various angles. The quality of
the joints, the
regularity of the mouldings and the harmonious
proportions testify to
meticulous craftsmanship, combining structural
robustness with the
desire to showcase the mechanism.

At the top,
an overhanging rectangular cornice, accentuated
by stepped mouldings,
crowns the structure. It rests upon a four-sided
glazed case framed by
vertical gilt-bronze uprights with softened edges.
At the base, a
substantial, similarly moulded plinth provides a
stable foundation
while extending the geometric elegance of the
design. The front
features a circular white enamel dial, surrounded
by a gilt-bronze

bezel and fitted with black Roman numerals, a chemin-de-fer minute track and finely crafted hands. Two winding apertures provide access for winding the movement, while the signature "A. J. Rodanet" and the inscription "Paris" identify the clockmaking establishment. The hinged front glass door provides convenient access to the dial and movement, while the side and rear glass panels offer an unobstructed view of the movement and its working components. The glazed rear door, in particular, reveals the mechanical arrangement and pendulum, emphasising the clock's dual aesthetic and technical purpose.

The mercury-compensated pendulum

The mercury-jar pendulum, suspended beneath the movement, is one of the most remarkable features of this precision timepiece. This ingenious device uses the thermal expansion of mercury to compensate, to a certain extent, for variations in the pendulum rod's length caused by temperature changes. As the temperature rises, the expansion of the mercury alters the distribution of mass, helping to maintain a more constant period of oscillation. This principle of thermal compensation, particularly valued in fine nineteenth-century horology, reflects the efforts made by clockmakers to improve the timekeeping accuracy of their timepieces. The presence of this mechanism, combined with a fully visible construction, lends the clock

additional technical interest and offers a tangible illustration of the ingenuity of horological solutions developed during this period.

With its balanced architecture, glazed gilt-bronze case and exposed movement, this four-glass clock brings together the qualities sought by collectors of antique horology: decorative elegance, mechanical interest and the signature of an identifiable Parisian clockmaker. The mercury-compensated pendulum is a particularly noteworthy feature, offering an instructive insight into nineteenth-century clockmaking expertise. Both a work of decorative art and a testament to the evolution of precision mechanisms, this clock would make a distinguished addition to a specialised collection, a horological cabinet or a classically styled interior, where it would bring a refined and timeless presence.

The original movement, without modifications. Strikes the hours and half-hours on a gong, producing a clear and authentic tone.