Barbedienne, Bronze And Cloisonné Champlevé Enamel Box



2 500 EUR

Signature : Barbedienne
Period : 19th century
Condition : Très bon état
Width : 18 cm

Description

Rare box in bronze and champlevé enamel (cloisonné) with rams
signed "F. Barbedienne Paris"

France
circa 1880
height 12 cm
width 18 x 18 cm

A very beautiful and rare gilt bronze box. The so-called "Persian" enamel decoration using the champlevé technique is adorned with stylized polychrome floral motifs on a yellow background. The box rests on four feet extending by ram heads.

Condition : excellent with original gilding !

Dealer

Galerie N°4
Antiquaire généraliste - Sur rdv uniquement-
Mobile : 06 12 70 76 35

Paris 75016

Champlevé is an enamelling technique in which troughs or cells are carved or cast into the bronze surface and filled with enamel. The piece is then fired until the enamel melts, and when cooled the surface of the object is polished. This technique derived from the Cloisonné enamelling technique produces a finer effect.

Biography

Born in 1810, Ferdinand Barbedienne started at n°30 boulevard Poissonnière in Paris one of the most famous 19th century artistic bronze casting companies. He died in 1892. In addition to his personal production, he worked for famous artists such as Auguste Clésinger (1814-1883), Albert-Ernest Carrier-Belleuse (1824-1887) and Louis Barrias (1841-1905 At the London Universal Exhibition of 1862 Barbedienne exhibited some «cloisonné» enamel works, which were for most of them designed by Constant Sévin, and won medals in three different categories : Furniture, Silversmith work and Artistic bronzes, combining for some pieces with enamels (Oriental style cup, Château de Compiègne, Inv. C 71-122). Barbedienne's production was always highly esteemed and he was, himself admired by contemporary art critics who compared him during the 1878 Universal Exhibition to a «prince of industry and the king of bronze-casting».