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Napoleon III Boule Style Commode



7 500 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Gilted wood

Width : 121 cm

Height : 110 cm

Depth : 45 cm

Description

We are delighted to present this elegant chest of drawers, a captivating piece that exemplifies the grandeur and refined aesthetic of the Napoleon III period in France. This chest showcases a harmonious blend of classical influences, intricate craftsmanship, and luxurious materials, truly characteristic of this opulent era.

Design Highlights and Luxurious Materials:

Boulle Marquetry: The chest is sumptuously adorned with exquisite Boulle marquetry, featuring a rich contrast of brass and tortoiseshell inlays on an ebony ground. This intricate technique creates a mesmerizing visual effect, showcasing the extraordinary skill and patience of the artisans who crafted it. The detailed patterns likely include intricate arabesques, scrolling foliage, and perhaps grotesque masks, reflecting the elaborate

Dealer

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designs revived during the Second Empire. Ornate Bronzework (Ormolu Mounts): The chest is lavishly embellished with ormolu mounts, featuring finely cast and chiseled details. These mounts include scrolling acanthus leaves, classical figures such as caryatids or herms, and possibly other mythological figures or floral motifs, adding a touch of unparalleled opulence and dynamism to the design. The quality of the gilding is exceptional, radiating a warm, rich glow. Architectural Form: The chest incorporates distinctive architectural elements, such as pilasters along the sides and friezes, reflecting the strong influence of Neoclassicism on the Empire style. Its stately form and balanced proportions contribute to its commanding presence. Marble Top: The chest is crowned with a marble top, adding a touch of refined luxury and complementing the rich colors and intricate patterns of the Boulle marquetry. Style and Period:

The design elements--including the Boulle marquetry, the ornate bronzework, and the architectural details--are highly indicative of the Napoleon III style. This period, spanning from 1852 to 1870, witnessed a significant revival of interest in classical forms and a strong focus on luxury and grandeur. The style was heavily influenced by the military achievements of Napoleon III and the opulent aesthetic of his court, often referencing earlier grand French styles, particularly Louis XIV and Louis XV, but with a distinct 19th-century interpretation. Overall Impression:

This chest of drawers is a truly captivating piece that would have been a profound statement of wealth and sophistication in the 19th century. It represents a sophisticated blend of artistry and craftsmanship, reflecting the opulence and refinement of the Napoleon III era and the enduring appeal of the Boulle marquetry tradition. It is a collector's dream, offering both historical significance and exceptional decorative beauty. Key Selling Points & Unrivaled

Collector's Value: Authentic Napoleon III Period

Piece: A genuine example of furniture from the

Second Empire, highly sought after by

collectors. Exceptional Boulle Marquetry:

Showcases rare and intricate brass and

tortoiseshell inlay work on an ebony ground,

demonstrating masterful craftsmanship. Lavish

Ormolu Mounts: Adorned with finely cast and

chiseled gilt bronze mounts, adding unparalleled

opulence and detail. Architectural and

Neoclassical Influences: Blends classical forms

with the grandeur of the Empire style. Luxurious

Marble Top: Features a refined marble surface,

complementing the rich materials. Historical

Significance: A reflection of the refined taste and

wealth of the Napoleon III court. Investment

Quality: A rare and museum-quality piece of

decorative art, promising significant long-term

value appreciation.