



19th Century French Empire Style Desk



5 000 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Gilted wood

Width : 140 cm

Height : 77 cm

Depth : 78 cm

Description

We are delighted to present this elegant desk, a superb example of the grandeur and refined aesthetic of the Empire style in France. This desk showcases a harmonious blend of classical influences and masterful craftsmanship, truly characteristic of this influential era.

Design Highlights and Luxurious Materials: Architectural Form: The desk's design draws direct inspiration from classical architecture, featuring straight lines, geometric shapes, and what are likely fluted pilasters at the corners. The overall effect is reminiscent of a miniature temple, embodying the period's reverence for Greco-Roman antiquity.

Rich Mahogany Finish: The desk is crafted from mahogany, a highly favored wood during the Empire period, known for its deep reddish-brown color and lustrous finish. This

Dealer

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choice of material underscores the piece's luxurious quality and durability. **Ornate Bronzework (Ormolu Mounts):** The desk is lavishly embellished with ormolu mounts, featuring finely cast and chiseled details. These include distinctive lion paw feet, laurel wreaths, and other prominent classical motifs, adding a touch of unparalleled opulence and dynamism to the design. The handles on the drawer fronts also appear to be intricately sculpted gilt bronze figures, possibly winged putti or mythological beings. **Functional Details:** The desk includes practical features such as drawers (at least one central one visible), and likely secret compartments and a leather writing surface, reflecting the needs of a busy executive or scholar of the era. **Style and Period:**

The design elements--including the architectural form, the use of mahogany, and the ornate bronzework--are highly indicative of the pure Empire style. This period, spanning from 1804 to 1815, saw a pronounced revival of interest in classical forms and a strong focus on grandeur and military might, directly reflecting the reign of Napoleon Bonaparte. **Overall Impression:**

This desk is a 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 Empire style. Its commanding presence and timeless design make it an ideal centerpiece for a distinguished study or office. **Key Selling Points & Unrivaled Collector's Value:**

Authentic Empire Period Piece: A genuine example of furniture from the height of the First French Empire, highly sought after by collectors. **Luxurious Materials:**

Crafted from rich mahogany and adorned with exquisite, finely detailed ormolu mounts. **Classical Architectural Form:**

Embodies the strict classicism and grandeur characteristic of the Empire style, reminiscent of ancient temples. **Ornate Gilt Bronze Mounts:**

Features iconic Empire motifs such as lion paw feet and

laurel wreaths, demonstrating exceptional quality and design. **Functional Elegance:** Combines its impressive aesthetic with practical features for a refined workspace. **Historical Significance:** A direct reflection of the imperial taste and power of Napoleon's era. **Investment Quality:** A rare and museum-quality piece of decorative art, promising significant long-term value appreciation.