

SA880145

Guilmet Novelty Desk Timepiece in the shape of a Knights Helmet

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA880145****Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 22 cm (8.7")

Width = 17 cm (6.7")

Depth = 12 cm (4.7")

Description

A fantastic desk clock made by the great novelty clockmaker and inventor Andre Romain Guilmet. This desktop timepiece has an eight day movement with a platform escapement with a silvered roman chapter ring and gilded centre with blued steel hands behind bevelled glass held in a gilded bezel. The case in the form of a medieval knight's helmet is silver plated with ormolu mounts in the form of ostrich feathers with a visor that rises to display the clock dial, whole mounted on a rouge marble plinth sitting on a gilded brass base plate. The whole case is beautifully made with incredible attention to detail having gilded and knurled visor knuts and chin strap hooks complementing the authentic armoury appearance. Our attribution to Guilmet is based on the distinctive silvered dial with gilded centre combined with the gothicised hands found on many on Guilmet's clocks (p.263 Fig.22-23 A-D 'Mystery, Novelty & Fantasy Clocks' by Derek Roberts) as well as the fact that the movement is stamped CH. VNCE Paris 38693, Charles Vincenti is a clockmaker known to have worked for S.Marti & Cie who would have provided the basic movement to Guilmet. The overall appearance use of materials ...

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