

SA976586

Automaton Beam Engine Clock by Andre Guilmet

Price

GBP 11,800

| USD \$16,088 | EUR 13,769

Item Reference: SA976586

Date of manufacture: 1880

Dimensions

Height = 19 cm (7.5")

Width = 20.5 cm (8.1")

Depth = 9 cm (3.5")

Description

A novelty mantel clock in the form of an industrial beam engine by Andre Romain Guilmet, dating from circa 1878 and numbered 196 and signed by Guilmet. The eight day movement is surmounted by a beam that forms the upper part of a compound pendulum and thus continually rocks to and fro, giving the impression that the beam is pumping the pistons on either side of the clock dial these still retain their original butterfly brocot suspension springs. At the centre of the beam the compound pendulum X-suspension operates in the same manner as a hairspring – it generates the return force to bring the beam back in the opposite direction to its swing, to be impulsed by the brocot escapement the. The brass case is silver plated and patinated to give an industrial appearance with polished brass details mounted on a black marble base. The industrial clock series started in circa 1875 and ran until approximately 1910 this model is one of the earliest made numbered 196 and signed by Guilmet, pleasingly an earlier serial number than those found by Derek Roberts in his research published in *Mystery, Novelty & Fantasy Clocks*. André Romain Philéas Guilmet was an obsessive inventor wh...

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Seller Details

Chalfont Clocks

Chalfont Station Road Little Chalfont Buckinghamshire HP7 9PN
United Kingdom

Tel: 01494 763 793

International Tel: +44 1494 763 793

