

Limoges enamel Petite sonnerie Carriage Clock



An exquisite small gilt French carriage clock with Limoges enamel panels, dating from c.1895. The Limoges panels are in perfect original condition, the detailed brushwork on the dark background superbly executed. The two sides depict Aphrodite with Cupid; on the right panel Aphrodite is surrounded by doves, and Cupid offers a nest full of eggs; on the left panel she teaches Cupid to use his bow. On the dial, tiny amorini play instruments beneath the trees.

The top glass is engraved with a heavy script R.

Although compact, the 8-day movement incorporates several complications – alarm work and petite sonnerie strikework. The clock strikes the hours and quarters on two gongs, and a strike / silent lever in the base allows the owner to silence the strike completely. The alarm setting dial is placed on the back of the movement so that the painted scene on the dial is not disturbed.

The gilt case has Corinthian columns and a bowed fluted top handle. Unusually, the clock is complete with its original leather carrying case in remarkably good condition.

Height (handle up): 6 inches (15 cms)

Width: 3 inches

Depth: 2 inches