

19TH CENTURY FRENCH NAPOLEON III SILVER-PLATED BRONZE JEWELRY BOX

$1,600

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Richly ornamented with classical motifs and intricate repoussé decoration, this antique Napoleon III jewelry box is a fine example of 19th-century French decorative metalwork. Crafted in France circa 1870, the rectangular casket is constructed of bronze with a silver-plated finish and features an elaborate architectural design raised on four scrolled feet.

The jewelry box is embellished on all sides with detailed floral garlands, scrolling foliage, and raised decorative panels framed by classical pilasters. The front features symmetrical swags of flowers and leaves, while each end is adorned with a sculptural lion-head motif in high relief. A molded upper cornice and richly decorated lower border further enhance the architectural character of the piece.

The hinged lid rises to a stepped, domed rectangular top decorated with intricate repoussé floral and foliate motifs. An oval medallion at the center depicts Poseidon, the Greek god of the sea, adding a mythological element to the classical design.

Opening the casket reveals a richly upholstered interior lined in deep blue silk fabric, with a padded and button-tufted underside of the lid. The contrasting blue lining provides an attractive setting for storing jewelry, watches, or other personal treasures.

The box bears the inscription “Allegre Toulon” on the interior, indicating a possible French maker or retailer from the Mediterranean port city of Toulon.

The antique jewelry casket is in excellent condition commensurate with age and use, retaining a richly patinated silver-plated finish over bronze. With its detailed craftsmanship, substantial proportions, and decorative presentation, this Napoleon III box would make a distinctive addition to a vanity, dressing table, or bedroom.

Dimensions: 10.25” W x 7” D x 7” H.

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