



**Pair of porcelain portrait and gilded bronze frame signed A. Giroux**

Era: 2nd part of the 19th century.

Materials: porcelain, enamel, bronze.

Dim: H 6.29 in / W 4.92 in.

Dim: H 16 cm / W 12,5 cm.

Pair of porcelain portraits featuring a man and a woman of the 17th century. It is most likely a portrait of Louis XIV and Maria Theresa of Austria. The two porcelain medallions are set in a scalloped bronze frame. Each frame is decorated with blue and royal blue champlévé enamel. These motifs of interlacing recalling the marquetry of Charles-André Boulle. Each portrait is enhanced by a red glass element mounted in cabochon. Above each frame, a laurel wreath framing a crest engraved with the figure F. The frames are signed Alphonse Giroux. This pair of frames is characteristic of the Historical style that develops during the Second Empire.

The shop of **Alphonse Giroux et Cie** was located at 7 rue du Coq-Saint-Honoré and continued from the Consulate at the end of the second French Empire. François-Simon-Alphonse Giroux created a shop at the end of the 18th century and at the Restoration in 1834 he became a cabinet maker. He became a supplier to the aristocracy and the royal entourage. Around 1837, he retired and entrusted his succession. This famous store exhibited at the Exhibition of French Industry in 1839 and won a silver medal. They became suppliers of the Second Empire until 1867.