



Early 19th Century Pink Opaline Bottle

Era: Restauration period.

Materials: opaline.

Dim: H 8.66 in (22 cm).

Opaline crystal bottle "pigeon throat" The neck is worked with hot and faceted applications. The body of the bottle is adorned with a decorative headband representing bouquets of silver and gold flowers and forget-me-nots framed by gold bands underlined with palmette motifs. The stopper is removable. Some small lack of gilding at the neck and cork. The decor is characteristic of the Desvignes workshop. Charles X, 1820-1830.

Jean-Baptiste Desvignes was an active decorator in Paris from 1817 to 1826. He was a painter, gilder on porcelain and crystal. In 1817, he filed a patent for a process of gilding and crystal painting without firing or incrustation in the crystal. His decorations are characteristic because they favor a certain repetition of floral motifs.

This color of opaline is rare and exceptional. Indeed, to opacify the crystal was added: bone ash, tin and arsenic. Finally this pink color was obtained by the addition of gold salts. Only a few production centers were able to produce such colors as Le Creusot, Baccarat, Saint-Louis or Choisy-le-Roi. The diffusion of these crystals was marketed by merchants established around the Palais-Royal such as "L'escalier de cristal".