



## CEDRIC DUPONT ANTIQUES

P A L M B E A C H

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A most important and high quality French 19th century Louis XVI/XV st. Ormolu cartel clock, signed F. Barbedienne and E. Becker 98'. This impressive cartel clock with its original gilding throughout, along with its square plate and French movement, is a special commissioned piece with the two well known artists having designed the piece, the multiple inscriptions at the base, and recognition of all four seasons above the clock's face. This stunning cartel clock is centered by an array of scrolling acanthus leaves which extend around the base of the circular body of the clock. The lower part of the clock's frame has inscriptions:

'F. Barbedienne', 'E. Becker 98', and 'Fugit Irreparabile Tempus'. 'Fugit Irreparabile Tempus' translates to "it escapes, irretrievable time" and originates from the Latin phrase and comes from book 3 of Virgil's Georgics. Wrapped around the clock's frame are scrolling parchments that curl towards the face. The clock's face is edged with a spiral pattern ribbon and has a finely beveled Glass door. The enameled dial is accented by hand painted hour markers, 'F. Barbedienne' signature, and pierced scrolling foliate Ormolu hands. Above the clock face are four coins of male and female profiles that represent each season, in this case, of the 19th century. Moving upward on the foliate decorated back plate, we come to the extravagant top crown. The top crown is intricately designed with a central male bust that is adjoined by open wings on either side, a background sunburst design, and a tied bow at the peak.

This beautiful piece is a representation of the 19th century as a whole and was present at The Exposition Universelle. The Exposition Universelle of 1900, better known in English as the 1900 Paris Exposition, was a world's fair held in Paris, France, from 14 April to 12 November 1900, to celebrate the achievements of the past century and to accelerate development into the next.





