



Peter Mühlbauer



David Roentgen

A German ormolu-mounted mahogany 'table à écrire'
(1743 Herrnhaag – Wiesbaden 1807)

Neuwied, ca. 1780/90

Mahogany, gilt bronze fittings

76 x 78 x 71 cm

This exquisite small writing table is a beautiful example of Roentgen's unrivalled craftsmanship. It combines the sophisticated quality of the construction with the use of splendid veneers and finely chased gilt bronze mounts in the confident restrained manner, so much appreciated by Roentgen's discerning patrons.

The rectangular top with gallery and stepped edge above a paneled frieze, decorated "à toute faces" with pearl borders and a diamond-shaped "Mille-Raies" panel. The secretary drawer is equipped with a leather-covered, sliding writing board with drawers underneath. On both sides, there are pull-out shelves

covered with green leather punched with gold. The corner posts feature the typical Roentgen rosettes and triglyphs. The removable legs with gilt "Mille-Raies" plates in cube-shaped "sabots" ending in casters.

The production of Roentgens luxury furniture remains unmatched in quality and sophistication to this day. They continue to inspire the world and can be found in major museums such as the Metropolitan Museum in New York, the Louvre in Paris and the Hermitage in St Petersburg.

Literature:

D. Fabian, Abraham und David Roentgen, Bad Neustadt/Saale, 1996, ill. 166.

Prov.: Private collection