



**Antique 18th-century Verge Fusee Keywind pocket watch with enamel portrait  
£4,250.00**

This exceptional Swiss pocket watch, crafted between 1790 and 1820, showcases the pinnacle of 18th and early 19th-century watchmaking and decorative art. Featuring a verge fusee mechanism, it embodies both technical brilliance and artistic refinement synonymous with the Georgian era.

#### Key Features and Details:

- Dimensions & Weight: Measures 6 x 4.5 x 2 cm and weighs 58 grams.

#### Material:

- The case is crafted in 15kt gold, while the top section is tested as 20kt gold, highlighting its luxurious construction.
- The back features a finely painted enamel portrait scene, framed by a border of natural seed pearls, a mark of opulence and attention to detail.

#### Enamel Portrait:

- The enamel artwork depicts a pastoral scene of a lady and a gentleman, rendered in vibrant colors with exceptional intricacy.

- The deep blue guilloché enamel background adds depth, while the gold bezel is decorated with ornate floral and foliate motifs, reflecting the artistry of the period.

#### Dial:

- The white enamel dial is signed "A Genève," denoting its origins in Geneva, a hub of premium watchmaking.

It features black Roman numerals, a subsidiary seconds dial, and delicately crafted gold hands, framed by a gold bezel set with seed pearls.

#### Movement:

- Powered by a verge fusee escapement, a hallmark of early precision engineering in timepieces. The movement is elaborately engraved with floral patterns and scrollwork, demonstrating the exceptional craftsmanship of its maker.

- Complete with its original winding key, a rare and valuable addition that enhances its authenticity and collectability.

#### Historical Context:

During the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Geneva was renowned for combining technical innovation in watchmaking with artistic excellence. Verge fusee mechanisms were the standard in fine timepieces of the era, valued for their ability to regulate timekeeping. Pocket watches with hand-painted enamel scenes were luxury items, often custom-made for aristocratic patrons.

#### Design Elements:

- The dual gold content (15kt and 20kt) demonstrates a thoughtful design approach, balancing durability with lavishness.

- The seed pearl frame enhances the elegance of the enamel artwork, which is a stunning example of miniature painting.

- The guilloché enamel background is a testament to the expertise required to achieve this intricate effect, underscoring the watch's artistic value.

#### Condition:

- The enamel scene is vibrant and intact, with no significant losses or damage, preserving the piece's visual impact.

- The gold casing shows minor wear consistent with its age, adding to its charm and historical authenticity.

- The verge fusee mechanism is complete and fully working, but professional servicing is recommended for optimal functionality.

#### Additional Feature:

**Original Winding Key:** This watch comes with its original winding key, a rare and desirable accessory that enhances its historical and collector's value.

This pocket watch is a masterpiece of Swiss horological and artistic achievement. Combining fine materials, intricate craftsmanship, and a highly collectible verge fusee mechanism, it is a remarkable addition to any serious collection of antique timepieces.