

ADRIAN ALAN

Fine Art & Antiques



Pier Luigi Colli (1895 - 1968)

An Italian Art Deco Walnut Marquetry and Parcel Gilt Drinks Cabinet

Circa: Circa 1940

Walnut

Italy

Circa 1940

The three keys are stamped 'Colli, Torino'.

An Italian Art Deco Walnut Marquetry and Parcel Gilt Drinks Cabinet by *Pier Luigi Colli*.

This stylish cabinet is centred by a marquetry panel depicting a classical charioteer in the antique manner. It has three locking cupboards and a hinged top which opens to two leaves to create additional counters and reveal silver plated basins.

Artist description:

Pier Luigi Colli (1895-1968) studied at the Paris *École des Arts Décoratifs* and returned to Italy in the 1920s to lead the Colli family furniture business.

Influenced by the Parisian and the Art Deco style, designs by Pier Luigi Colli shows re-interpretations these elegant movements. For example he imported Lalique glass and Jean Perzel Art Deco lamps.

The Colli company had been in operation in Turin since 1850 and was famous for it's fine carpets, fabrics and lighting which included Seguso Murano Glass. Colli furniture uniquely combined materials such as iron, brass, glass and wood. Collaborations with the Fratelli Frama (Frama Mobili) exemplified Italian style & craftsmanship and contributed to the Neo-Liberty movement in Italy.

The company worked in partnership with important architects such as Gio Ponti, Giovanni Gariboldi, Carlo Mollino, Domenico Morelli, Gabetti and Isola. Among the realized projects are the interiors of the Royal Train carriages by Fiat, The Richard Ginori Showrooms, The Rai Skycraper & Auditorium and

the Neo liberty interiors of the Stock Market Building.

The Colli company had branches in Rome & Milan. After Pier Luigi's death in 1968, the company was successfully run by his daughter Claudia. The company later closed in the 1980s making Pier Luigi Colli furniture highly sought after.