

ADRIAN ALAN

Fine Art & Antiques



Pierre Gouthière (1732 - 1813)

A Louis XVI Style Twenty-Four Light, Two-Tier, Cherub Chandelier

Circa: Circa 1890

125 x 100 cm (49 1/8 x 39 inches)

Gilt-Bronze

France

Circa 1890

A Fine Louis XVI Style Gilt-Bronze Twenty-Four Light, Two-Tier, Cherub Chandelier, in the Manner of Pierre Gouthière.

This fine chandelier has an acanthus cast corona above a baluster stem with four trumpet playing putti; their acanthus wrapped lower sections extending to form eight scrolling candle arms. Below is a lower tier issuing a further sixteen acanthus wrapped candle arms, each terminating in leaf cast drip trays and circular nozzles.

The design for the chandelier is an adaptation of the model designed by Pierre Gouthière for Le Cabinet Doré in Marie-Antoinette's private apartments at the Palace of Versailles. A design for the chandelier by Gouthière survives in the collections of the Musée des Arts Décoratifs.

Literature:

Ottomeyer, Hans & Pröschel, Peter. *Vergoldete Bronzen*, Vol. I, Klinkhardt & Biermann, (Munich), 1986; p. 238, figs. 4.4.1. and 4.4.2.

Artist description:

Pierre Gouthière (1732 - 1813) was the most celebrated bronze gilder in France during the eighteenth century, the title of Gilder to the King being given to him by Louis XV. He perfected the most expensive type of gilding of this period, dorure au mat, which involved the use of lavish amounts of gold to create a rich, deep matte finish. As well as working for the King he created items for the Comte d'Artois, the

Marquis de Marigny, and the duc d'Aumont.

The collection of the duc d'Aumont was sold at auction in Paris in 1782 and many objects mounted by Gouthière were bought by Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette. His works, unsurpassed in creativity and execution, can now be found in the Wallace Collection, London and the Louvre, Paris.