

ADRIAN ALAN

Fine Art & Antiques



Sèvres

An Exceptional Pair of Exhibition Quality Sèvres-Style Porcelain Vases

Circa: French, Circa 1860

French, Circa 1860

140 x 41 cm (55 1/4 x 16 1/4 inches)

Gilt-Bronze and Porcelain

Signed 'Lucot'

An Exceptional and Important Pair of Exhibition Quality Gilt-Bronze Mounted Sèvres-Style Porcelain Vases and Covers.

Signed 'Lucot'.

This exceptional pair of vases are of inverted ovoid form with finely painted Watteau-esque panels depicting a game of dice and the taking of tea, each within a deep blue ground. The body is further embellished with tooled gilt foliate running pattern and arabesque. The neck of each vase is of flared trumpet form surmounted by domed lids with corresponding decoration and terminating in gilt acorn finials. Each vase is supported on a flared spreading foot and put down on gilt-bronze bases with re-entrant corners.

The reserves to the front of each vase contain finely painted panels depicting romantic genre scenes drawing inspiration from Watteau's fêtes galantes and the pastoral paintings of Boucher, each is signed to the lower left 'Lucot'.

French, Circa 1860.

Artist description:

The Sèvres Porcelain Manufactory was founded to the east of Paris in the disused Royal château of Vincennes, late in 1739-40. and moved to the village of Sèvres, west of Paris in 1756, en route to King Louis XV's palace of Versailles.

Here it was also adjacent to Louis's mistress Madame de Pompadour's own château at Bellevue. She was delighted with the factory's new location - as she knew she could entice Louis to take a greater interest in it when it was so near their own residences. Indeed, the King became such a keen patron of the factory that, when it ran into financial difficulties, he bought out the shareholders and became the sole proprietor. The factory remained a royal enterprise until the French Revolution, when it was nationalised.

The popularity of the Louis XV style during the nineteenth century led to a number of companies in and around Paris, creating exceptional Sèvres Style porcelain based on eighteenth century models, and to the same exceptional quality. Often these pieces were of exhibition quality and scale, and finely painted by the best studio painters of the day such as Poitevin.