

ADRIAN ALAN

Fine Art & Antiques



Alexandre Vibert

A Pair of Petite Art Nouveau Gilt-Bronze Vases, by Alexandre Vibert

Circa: French, Circa 1900

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24 x 10 x 10 cm (9 1/4 x 4 x 4 inches)

Gilt-Bronze

Signed to the body 'Alexandre Vibert' and with the foundry mark for 'Colin, Fondateur'

A Pair of Petite Art Nouveau Gilt-Bronze Vases, by Alexandre Vibert, Cast by Colin et Cie.

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Each vase is of baluster form decorated overall with stylised poppy flowers and stems in the Art Nouveau style.

French, Circa 1900.

Colin, Fondateur

Emile Colin was an independent foundry worker who, in the mid 19th century, worked for some of the best known sculptors in France, including Carrier-Belleuse, Pradier, Feuchère and Moreau.

In 1881, Emile Vie took over Gustave-Isaac Levy's foundry and subsequently renamed it 'E. Vie et Cie'. After several improvements and refurbishment's to the company, Vie died shortly thereafter at the

beginning of 1882. At this point Emile Colin took over the company renaming it 'E.Colin et Cie'.

Under Emile's leadership the foundry was situated out of 29 Rue de Sevigné. Emile kept on many of the designs which were used before his appointment, but made sure the foundry was known for its speciality in producing statues. In 1898, Emile retired from his position and was replaced a member of his family. This resulted in a renaming of the company to 'M.Colin et Cie'. Emile died one year later in 1899 from illness.

At the beginning of the century the firm had a large reputation for its lighting manufacture and ornate bronzes designed by various artists. A shop specifically for the sale of electric lighting opened in 1893 at 32 Rue du Faubourg-Saint-Honoré. However the company still made statues and objects which were sent to the 1893 Chicago Exposition and other exhibitions in Paris. In 1900, the company was awarded a prize at the 1900 Exposition Universelle after which they began to concentrate again on contemporary bronze works of art. In 1906, the company changed hands again until in 1923 it reverted to Ancienne Maison Colin. In 1939 the shop and its contents were abandoned.

Artist description:

Alexandre Vibert was a pupil of Alexandre-Victor Lequien (1822-1905), Emmanuel Fremiet and Eugène Robert (1831-1912).

In July 1871 he married Maria Angèle Maissa (widow of Orengo) in Paris and took over the cardboard business from his wife from 1871 to 1882. He exhibited at the Salon from 1883 to 1907 and obtained an honorable mention in 1893. His works are primarily in the Art Nouveau style and usually signed "A. Vibert".

He took his own life on 25th February 1909 at his home in Jouars-Pontchartrain 6,7 and the contents of his home were sold on March 31 at the Hotel Drouot.