

ADRIAN ALAN

Fine Art & Antiques



Manner of Adam Weisweiler

A Fine Louis XVI Style Gilt-Bronze Gueridon

Circa: French, Circa 1880

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76 x 0 cm (29 7/8 x 0 inches)

gilt-bronze and marble

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This fine gueridon has a rouge granite circular top above a laurel and rose cast frieze raised on four tapering legs headed by finely cast gilt-bronze female caryatids, united by a trefoil loop stretcher and put down on stiff leaf cast feet.

The design of the leg is derived from a mount used by the ébéniste Adam Weisweiler for use on the angles of secretaires and for the legs of a table delivered by Daguerre in 1784 for Queen Marie-Antoinette, See M. Segoura, *Weisweiler, Paris*, 1983, p. 42.

The pattern was adopted in the 19th century by amongst others Louis-Auguste-Alfred Beurdeley (1808-1882) and his son Alfred Henry Dasson (1825-1896) and Zwiener see C. Payne, *19th Century European Furniture*, Woodbridge, Suffolk, 1985, p. 226.

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Artist description:

Adam Weisweiler (1744-1820), was a pre-eminent cabinet maker working in Paris from 1777. He

became a maître-ébéniste in 1778, and set up his workshop on the rue du Faubourg Saint-Antoine, Weisweiler worked mainly for the marchands-merciers, who alone could supply him with the Japanese lacquer panels that, combined with ebony and refined gilt-bronze, characterise some of his finest work. Through Dominique Daguerre he supplied the writing table of steel, lacquer and ebony and gilt-bronze for Marie Antoinette at the château de Saint-Cloud in 1784. Also through Daguerre he provided furniture for the Prince Regent (later George IV) at Carlton House, London.

Weisweiler specialised in small refined pieces, with fine lines, delicate legs with light interlaced stretchers, and gilt-bronze low-relief plaques and mounts, some provided to him by Pierre Gouthière through Daguerre, often decorated with panels of Japanese lacquer and Sèvres porcelain plaques, even panels of pietra dura.

Unlike other luxury furniture makers of the Ancien Régime, Weisweiler weathered the Revolution. In 1810 he was supplying Queen Hortense and collaborating with Pierre-Philippe Thomire.