

ADRIAN ALAN

Fine Art & Antiques



After Pierre Gouthière

A Large and Impressive Louis XVI Style Gilt-Bronze Four-Light Candelabrum

Circa: French, Circa 1890

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87 x 43 cm (34 1/4 x 16 7/8 inches)

Gilt-Bronze

A Large and Impressive Louis XVI Style Gilt-Bronze Four-Light Candelabrum, After the Model Attributed to Pierre Gouthière.

Finely cast and gilded with a central stem issuing three acanthus-wrapped scrolled branches, with leaf-cast drip-pans and nozzles, supported on triple rams' monopodiae, hung with 'embroidered' tasselled penants and floral swags and enclosing a triple-handled amphora with central band cast with playful putti, on a triform base enclosing floral-garlanded Apollo masks, raised on a triform plinth cast with a fine guilloche border.

This fine candelabrum is modelled after the famous pair of candelabra attributed to Pierre Gouthière now conserved in the Petit-Trianon at Versailles. According to Pierre Verlet, the model corresponds to a large pair of candelabra with ten branches, drapery, foliage, and fruit, richly carved and gilded in bronze, originally supplied by the marchand mercier, Freres Darnault for Marie-Antoinette's Salon du Jeu at the Petit-Trianon in 1785 (see P. Verlet, *Les Bronzes Dorés Français du XVIIIe Siècle*, Paris, 1987, p. 99, fig. 111)

A popular model in the second half of the 19th century examples were made by some of the finest 'bronziers' of the day such as Alfred Beurdeley.

French, Circa 1890.

Literature:

Verlet, Pierre. 'Les Bronzes Dorés Français du XVIIIe siècle', Picard, (Paris), 1987; p. 99, plate 11.

Ottomeyer, Hans & Pröschel, Peter. 'Vergoldete Bronzen', Klinkhardt & Biermann (Munich), 1986; p. 261, f. 4.8.4.

Mestdagh, Camille & Lécoules, Pierre. 'L'Ameublement d'Art Français, 1850-1900', Les Editions de L'Amateur, (Paris), 2010; pp.262-276.

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.