



Pair Of Neo-greek Wall-lights, Attributed To F. Barbedienne, France, Circa 1880

7 500 EUR



Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 32 cm

Height : 53 cm

Depth : 41 cm

Description

A pair of neo-Greek wall-light sconces executed in two patina bronze. The central up-turned foliage stem, surmounted by a Greek style vase, ornated in relief with lion muzzles, issuing five light arms, joined by fine gilded chains. The all topped by a patinated bronze heron. Biography : Born in 1810, died in Paris in 1892, Ferdinand Barbedienne, the most important caster of bronze pieces of art during the second half of the 19th Century, created and directed in Paris one of the principle artistic foundries of his day.

Barbedienne specialized in classical reproductions, whose models were exposed in famous European museums. Their illustrated catalogues included many diverse objects such as busts, ornamental sculpture (clocks, candelabras, cups) sometimes even life-sized and also bronzes

Dealer

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for furniture. Apart from his own production, Barbedienne worked for the most renowned sculptors such as Barrias, Clésinger and Carrier-Belleuse. All his works were highly esteemed and he, himself honored by contemporary critics. At the London exhibition in 1851 Barbedienne's firm won two « Council medals ». At the 1855 Universal Exhibition, he won a medal of honor. The success of Barbedienne's firm brought him many official commissions. At the London Universal Exhibition of 1862 Barbedienne won medals in three different categories : Furniture, Silversmith work and Artistic bronzes. Barbedienne was made an officer of the Légion d'Honneur in 1867 and Commander in 1878 when he was compared with « a prince of industry and the king of bronze casting ». His glory did not decline with the passage of the time for at the Universal Exhibition of 1889 the critics thanked Barbedienne for the example he set for other bronze-casters by the perfection of his bronzes. Bibliography : L'univers des bronzes, Yves Devaux, Ed. Pygmalion, Paris, 1978. Catalogue de l'Exposition Universelle, les Beaux-Arts et les Arts décoratifs, t. I : l'Art moderne, Paris, 1878. Catalogue de l'Exposition Universelle, les Beaux-Arts et les Arts décoratifs, Paris, 1889.