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# V. Paillard & Baccarat, Pair Of Wall Lights, France, Circa 1870



24 000 EUR

Signature : Victor Paillard

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 41

Height : 77

Depth : 46

## Description

Signed VOR PAILLARD A PARISBeautiful pair of Second Empire period wall-lights with eight lights in chiseled and gilded bronze decorated with acanthus and rosettes, topped with a musician Cupid playing the flute and ending in the lower part with a mask. The eight twisted and foliated light-arms, ending in binets with gadroons and pearl friezes, are organized around a central shaft decorated with a profile portrait of a woman in a beaded medallion and topped with a crystal dagger. The whole is decorated with numerous rosettes, prisms and crystal pendants.Biography :Victor Paillard (1805-1886) was one of the most distinguished bronze casters in Paris during the second half of the 19th Century. He was taught chasing by Jean-François Denière (1774-1866), then opened

## Dealer

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in the 1830's his own workshop making "Art bronzes and Furnishing bronzes", settled n°105, boulevard Beaumarchais in Paris. He executed first small objects, then cast statuettes, candelabra, clocks as well as impressive sized torcheres. He appeared to the public for the first time at the Industrial Products Exhibition of 1839 and worked for the greatest French sculptors, such as Pradier, Barye and Carrier-Belleuse. He exhibited extensively with great success being mentioned for the quality of his work at the famous 1851 and 1862 London Universal Exhibitions, and the 1855, 1867 and 1878 Universal Exhibitions then held in Paris. Paillard was there celebrated by everyone ; John Burney Waring ilustrates a gilt-bronze mirror by him in his "Masterpieces of Industrial Art and Sculpture, 1862 (Plate 92)", which is a comprehensive record of the finest pieces on show in the London Exhibition. At that time, he was awarded a prize medal and the exceptional quality of his work was commented in all jury reports. Appointed a Chevalier of the Légion d'honneur by the French Government, Paillard employed since the 1850's a hundred workers and proposed to his wealthy clients about four hundred models, cast in bronze not only after famous sculptors' works, but also after his own creations. It is especially interesting that his "Cherub" figures, such as those ones presented here were particularly singled out for their charm and popularity by commentators at both the 1862 and 1867 Universal Exhibitions. Burney Waring noted that they portrayed the "happy and innocent moods of childhood".The famous crystal manufacture of Baccarat, that dates back to the 18th century, was awarded its first medal in 1823, during the "Exposition des Produits de l'Industrie" for the "brilliance and the sharpness of its crystal" and became then the most renowned French "cristallerie". Baccarat was undoubtedly the only French manufacture that exhibited steadily and magnificently its products at the various Universal Exhibitions, and especially between 1855 and 1867.  In all reports

one can read about the « perfection of the material and of its cut ».