



Set Of 4 Mahogany Armchairs, Att To François Honoré Jacob-desmalter (1770 - 1841)

2 800 EUR



Signature : François-Honoré-Georges Jacob-Desmalter (6 février 1770 - 15 août 1841)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Mahogany

Width : 58

Height : 95

Depth : 56

Description

Set of four Restoration period mahogany armchairs - attributed to François-Honoré-Georges Jacob-Desmalter (February 6, 1770 - August 15, 1841), circa 1820. Good overall condition, upholstery in a yellow-orange fabric in good condition (some wear). H x W x D = 95 x 58 x 56 cm These armchairs are in the English style, made of solid mahogany and mahogany veneer. They can be dated to the end of Jacob Desmalter's career, around 1820. Note the four Etruscan-style legs and the concave front rail. The armrest supports are Etruscan-style, and the armrests feature scrolled and waterleaf motifs resting on curved brackets. The back is curved. Marked with the initials J.F. under the rail. It is worth noting here that the saber legs are more curved and slender

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than those of the Empire period. The armrests describe a more fluid, less architectural curve. The backs are higher and less massive; we are clearly moving away from the rigid neo-antique style of the Empire.

Bibliography: - Michel Beurdeley, *Jacob et son Temps*, Saint-Remy-en-l'Eau, 2002 - Denise Ledoux-Lebard, *Le Mobilier Français du XIXieme Siècle*, Paris, 1989

Reproduction of a similar model on page 351.

Biography of François-Honoré-Georges Jacob-Desmalter (February 6, 1770 - August 15, 1841): The younger son of Georges Jacob, one of the greatest chair makers of the Ancien Régime, whose Parisian workshop had a European reach, François-Honoré-Georges Jacob-Desmalter was active from the late 18th century until 1825 within three successive companies. He added the suffix Desmalter to his name, after the Malterres estate that the Jacob family owned in Cheny, Burgundy. In partnership with his elder brother, Georges Jacob Fils, he founded the company Jacob Frères in 1796, which operated from 1796 to 1803, and whose stamp, on two lines, read: "JACOB·FRERES/RUE MESLEE". Upon the death of Georges Jacob Jr., he founded, in partnership with his father Georges Jacob, the company Jacob-Desmalter & Cie, located at 77 rue Meslée. This company went bankrupt in 1813, and its stamp, on two lines, reads "JACOB·D·/RUE·MESLEE". He continued his business under a third company from 1813 to 1825, during which time the furniture produced in the workshop was signed ".IACOB", which corresponds to the reuse of his father's ironwork, from which the letter G had been removed. In 1825, he sold his company to his son, George-Alphonse Jacob-Desmalter. Just as his father had benefited from commissions from the royal family under the Ancien Régime, the Jacob brothers, and later Jacob-Desmalter, became the principal suppliers to the Bonaparte family under the Consulate, and then to the imperial palaces under the Empire. The Jacob brothers, and later

Jacob Desmalter, produced furniture that now included not only seating but also cabinetmaking pieces, primarily based on designs by the ornamentalists Percier and Fontaine, leading architects and decorators of the Napoleonic era. The early 19th century was marked by the triumph of Neoclassicism and a return to lines inspired by Greco-Roman antiquity, culminating a movement that began in the 1760s. Jacob Desmalter's work is characterized by high-quality design, clean lines, exceptional craftsmanship, the use of finely chased gilt bronze mounts made by renowned bronze workers such as Pierre-Philippe Thomire, the use of mahogany with ebony or pewter inlays, as well as gilt and lacquered wood. The list of furniture delivered by Jacob Desmalter would be too long to compile: it should be noted that he supplied furniture for the Consular couple for the Hôtel de la rue de la Victoire, for the Château de Malmaison, and then participated in furnishing all the imperial palaces emptied by the Revolution: Saint-Cloud, Compiègne, Fontainebleau, Meudon, Rambouillet, and the Tuileries Palace, including the precious jewelry cabinet of Empress Marie-Louise, based on designs by Percier and Fontaine. They are also responsible for the Silver Salon at the Élysée Palace, the cradle of the King of Rome, and so on. Heavily reliant on imperial commissions, their workshop, which employed over three hundred workers[1], went bankrupt in 1813 when the finances of the First Empire no longer allowed it to pay its creditors. Jacob-Desmalter, however, managed to revive his business; commissions returned in 1815, and activity continued under the Restoration. His son, Georges Alphonse (1799-1870), succeeded him in 1825.