



PROANTIC
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Pair Of Gilded And Patinated Bronze And Copper Cups Depicting Mythological Scenes, 19th-century



2 600 EUR

Signature : France, XIXe siècle

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Diameter : 12

Height : 29

Description

France, 19th century
Pair of cups with mythological scenes
Gilded bronze, copper, black marble
H 29 × Ø 12 cm
Pair of elegant decorative cups in bronze and copper, finely chiseled and patinated, with gilded bronze appliqués and circular bases in black marble. France, 19th century. Displaying refined craftsmanship, the two cups feature a composite structure in which the contrast between dark-patinated surfaces, copper-plated elements, and gilded parts enhances the sculptural modeling and ornamental richness. The body, cylindrical-ovoidal in shape, is entirely covered with figural scenes of mythological subjects, rendered in relief with nude, draped figures, deities, and characters from classical antiquity. The treatment of the figures, drapery, and plant motifs reveals the 19th-century

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desire to recreate a repertoire inspired by Greco-Roman art, in keeping with the fascination with antiquity that particularly characterized 19th-century French decorative arts. The upper portion is framed by a wide gilded border, while the sides feature two prominent vertical handles ending in elegant spiral volutes, embellished with plant and geometric motifs in an archaeological style. The area below the border features a decorative band with stylized motifs, further emphasized by the color contrast with the patinated surface of the body. The body rests on a finely ornamented circular foot, also in gilded bronze and featuring plant motifs, leaves, and moldings, connected to the black marble base by a turned element. The entire piece rests on a solid, circular black marble pedestal with a simple design, which accentuates the preciousness of the bronze parts through contrast. The pair fits into the neoclassical revival style, with marked neo-Greek and archaizing elements, which were particularly widespread in 19th-century France. The revival of classical forms, ornamental motifs, and subjects was, in fact, a constant feature of French decorative arts, from the Restoration through the Second Empire and beyond. The combination of patinated bronze, gilded bronze, the continuous copper relief featuring mythological figures, the volute handles, and the use of black marble are recurring elements in French art and decorative objects of this period. Comparable examples are documented in 19th-century French production, including pieces with patinated bodies, gilded mountings, and marble bases. The choice of iconography evoking antiquity should not be considered solely as a decorative element: it is an integral part of the 19th-century collectors' taste for the ancient world, fueled by archaeological excavations, studies of classical art, and the dissemination of ancient models through engravings, publications, and casts. - All our works are accompanied by a detailed certificate of authenticity. - Professional packaging and insured shipping to ensure

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