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## Pair Of Cups (stemmed Bowls) Made Of Mercury-gilded Bronze And Cut Crystal, Empire Style, At

6 550 EUR

Signature : THOMIRE

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze



### Description

An exceptional pair of cups (or stemmed fruit bowls) from the First Empire period, made after a documented design by Pierre-Philippe Thomire (1751-1843), Paris, circa 1810. Each piece consists of a finely cast, chiseled, and mercury-gilded (gold-bronze) bronze base supporting an imposing hand-cut crystal bowl. The circular bowls feature a rich, star-shaped radial cut in the center, surrounded by a complex pattern of diamond points and edged with a scalloped frieze. The gilded bronze bases are exceptionally delicate; they take the form of tapered pedestals entirely adorned with elongated motifs of acanthus leaves and palm fronds, surmounting registers of classical decoration. The ensemble rests on a square, stepped base, giving the piece its powerful architectural silhouette,

### Dealer

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characteristic of the finest decorative objects of the Empire period. Although these examples are unsigned, this specific model is listed in period inventories as a creation by Pierre-Philippe Thomire, one of the most famous Parisian bronze casters of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The fact that these two pieces have been preserved together as a pair greatly enhances their decorative impact as well as their appeal to collectors. One of the cut-glass bowls has a damaged area (chip/missing piece), clearly visible in the photographs. The gilding has retained a beautiful antique patina, with signs of wear consistent with its age.

Manufacturer/Model: Pierre-Philippe Thomire (1751-1843)  
Origin: Paris, France  
Date: Circa 1810  
Period: First Empire  
Materials: Mercury-gilded bronze (gold bronze) and hand-cut crystal  
Dimensions of each piece: 20 cm high × 23 cm in diameter  
Condition: Good condition for its age, consistent with the object's age. One of the crystal bowls has a significant chip or break along the rim, as clearly shown in the photographs. Slight and normal wear on the gilding.