



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Pair Of Large Neo-renaissance Bookcases In Solid Walnut, Late 19th Century



11 450 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Walnut

Width : 140 cm

Height : 270 cm

Depth : 57 cm

Description

An important pair of French display bookcases crafted from solid walnut in the late 19th century, in the Neo-Renaissance style, more specifically in the Henri II style. Their monumental architecture, the richness of the carving, and the strictly symmetrical composition are characteristic of historicist French furniture from this period. Each bookcase features a glass-fronted upper section that opens via two large doors, complemented by side glass panels that allow natural light to illuminate the interior and display the objects from multiple angles. The interior is equipped with wide shelves that are height-adjustable via a system of side rails, allowing the space to be easily adapted to the dimensions of the books or objects on display. The lower section is particularly

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remarkable for its two carved panels adorned with powerful bacchanalian-inspired mascarons. The expressive faces are framed by leaves, vine tendrils, and bunches of grapes, set within molded architectural niches. The side posts are embellished with long carved scrolls composed of plant motifs and fruits, notably grape clusters and fleshy fruits, suspended beneath stylized decorative elements. The crowning element echoes this decorative vocabulary with a scalloped pediment featuring volutes, centered on a large trophy of fruit carved in high relief. The heavily molded cornices, the architecturally styled side panels, and the small turned elements at the ends reinforce the Neo-Renaissance character of the piece as a whole. The fact that these bookcases have been preserved as a pair adds to their appeal and allows for a particularly balanced display in a large interior.

Technique and Materials Both pieces are crafted from solid walnut. The construction is particularly sturdy, featuring thick components, substantial molding, and abundant relief carving. The main doors and sides are glazed. The interior wooden shelves are height-adjustable.

Date France, late 19th century, circa 1880-1900. The architectural vocabulary, Bacchus-themed mascarons, fruit trophies, volutes, and solid construction reflect the revival of Renaissance and Henri II-style furniture, which was particularly popular in France during the second half of the 19th century.

Condition Good overall condition, consistent with the age and use of the furniture. Shows slight signs of wear, minor marks, and natural variations in patina. The glass panels, doors, and shelves are all present. Beautiful antique patina of the walnut.

Use and Purpose With their almost architectural proportions, these bookcases are particularly well-suited for a large reception room, a library, an office, or a distinctive interior. Displayed as a pair, they also allow for a symmetrical arrangement on either side of a doorway, a fireplace, or a central feature. They can hold books, porcelain, sculptures, or

collectibles.Dimensionsheight - 270 cmwidth -
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