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Pair Of Louis XV-style Gilded Bronze Andirons With Tritons, 19th Century



4 800 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 45 cm

Height : 42 cm

Depth : 30 cm

Description

ProvenanceAn important pair of French gilded bronze andirons made in the 19th century after a famous mid-18th-century model now in the Louvre. The historical model, created around 1745-1749, depicts a two-tailed triton blowing into a conch shell and belongs to the extensive Rococo decorative repertoire developed during the reign of Louis XV. Its composition is linked to a model attributed to the sculptor Lambert-Sigisbert Adam.DescriptionEach andiron is centered around a powerful figure of a triton, arranged in a paired design and facing the center of the composition. The figures, depicted bare-chested, feature strongly sculpted musculature, abundant wavy hair, and long, finely chiseled beards. Each holds a large sea conch to his lips with one hand, in a dynamic pose evoking

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the mythological world of sea deities.The human bodies extend into broad, double fish tails with deeply carved fins, which blend naturally into the ornamentation of the base. This base features a remarkable rocaille design composed of asymmetrical volutes, shells, acanthus leaves, scrolls, and motifs evoking the movement of water. The various elements intersect and intertwine in a particularly rich openwork composition, while maintaining a high degree of clarity in the design.The set stands out for the precision of its modeling and the attention to detail: strands of hair, beard, anatomy, scales, the veins of the foliage, shells, and the surfaces of the fins are rendered with great finesse. The two andirons form a perfectly complementary pair and create a spectacular composition when placed on either side of a fireplace.Technique and MaterialsCast, chiseled, and gilded bronze. The chiseling is particularly elaborate on the figurative elements and the rocaille decoration, creating numerous contrasts between polished surfaces, textured areas, and deeply carved reliefs.DateFrance, 19th century. Crafted in the Louis XV style, directly inspired by a mid-18th-century French model.ConditionIn good overall condition. Slight signs of use, surface marks, and isolated wear on the gilding consistent with the age of the pair.Use and PurposeIntended to frame a hearth, these andirons also serve as a significant decorative element for an antique fireplace, a classical interior, or a display dedicated to French decorative bronzes.Dimensionsheight - 42 cmwidth - 45 cmdepth - 30 cm