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Gabriel Viardot - Set Of Four Japanese-style Chairs



5 500 EUR

Signature : Gabriel Viardot (attribué à)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Length : 45 cm

Height : 100 cm

Depth : 40 cm

Description

A set of four carved and stained wood chairs, executed inthe japanism taste. Each seat features an openwork backrest with sinuouschinese inspired fretwork evoking traditionnal Asian patterns. The loosecushions are upholstered in light fabric embroidered with floral motifs. Therichely pierced apron rests on four cabriole legs. Biography Gabriel Viardotcareer began as a wood carver and he produced small furniture, sculpturallycarved with naturalistic motifs and animals. In the 1855 Exposition Universellein Paris, his finely sculpted objects were well received. However, with theincreasing importation of similarly produced Swiss and German articles, hefound less opportunity for these and decided to innovate. G. Viardot succeededto his father's business in 1861 installed

Dealer

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rue Rambuteau in Paris. Around 1870he turned to the idea of producing « Meubles genre Chinois etJaponais ». The taste in Europe for exotic furniture, incorporatingsometimes authentic Chinese or Japanese objects was well established. ButViardot early designed his own models enriched with ivory, mother-of-pearl andbeautiful gilt-bronze mounts. After having won four medals at the ParisUniversal Exhibition of 1867, Viardot was awarded a silver medal at the 1878Universal Exhibition in Paris. He was also awarded gold medals severaltimes : Universal Exhibitions in Anvers (Belgium) in 1884, and again inParis in 1889 and 1900. A contemporary commentator notes that he had a workshopemploying approximately 100 men, both sculptors and cabinet-makers with another25 to 30 outside contract workers. « l'Escalier de Cristal », thefamous Parisian offering luxurious furniture got the exclusivity to use theirown stamp on six Viardot's furniture models.