



Uniquely Designed Central Table 20 Th Century



35 000 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Ce tableau est après rénovation de très bonne qualité.

Material : Wood marquetry

Diameter : 116 cm

Height : 96 cm

Description

We are honored to present this extraordinary center table, a profound testament to the opulence, artistic ambition, and unparalleled craftsmanship that characterized the 19th century in France. This exceptional piece features a striking combination of luxurious materials and powerful design elements, showcasing a level of artistry and execution rarely seen today, truly embodying the spirit of the Empire style and its fascination with antiquity, particularly Egypt. The Resplendent Malachite Top and Gilt Bronze Embellishments:

The circular tabletop is composed of a magnificent, solid slab of malachite. Its deep, emerald-green color, with intricate natural veining and swirling patterns, creates a mesmerizing and uniquely organic focal point.

Dealer

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Malachite, a rare and highly prized mineral, was predominantly sourced from the vast deposits of the Ural Mountains in Imperial Russia during this period. Its use in grand European interiors, especially in France, often signaled a connection to Russian aristocracy and the highest echelons of luxury. This sumptuous top is further enhanced by surrounding gilded bronze mounts, intricately cast with classical motifs of flowing acanthus leaves and elegant floral swags. The meticulous mercury gilding (bronze doré), a demanding and highly skilled technique, provides a luminous contrast to the deep green, enhancing the table's overall splendor. **The Powerful Sphinx Base and Symbolism:**

The base of the table is equally impressive and visually arresting, supported by four powerful sphinx figures. These mythical creatures, with their commanding lion bodies and serene human heads, exude an aura of power, mystery, and ancient wisdom. The sphinx motif became immensely popular in French decorative arts during the Empire period, largely spurred by Napoleon Bonaparte's Egyptian campaigns and the subsequent fascination with ancient Egyptian iconography. Each sphinx is meticulously detailed, boasting finely sculpted gilded bronze wings and additional decorative elements, highlighting the exceptional skill of the bronziers involved. Their placement as caryatids supporting the tabletop imbues the piece with a monumental and architectural quality. **An Imperial Statement Piece:**

The overall effect of this table is one of undeniable grandeur and sophisticated opulence, strongly reminiscent of the imperial palaces of Europe, from Fontainebleau to Pavlovsk, where similar pieces graced the most distinguished salons. This table is not merely a functional object but a significant work of art that captures the essence of a period marked by a revival of classical ideals and an embrace of exotic, luxurious materials. It would make a stunning addition to any grand residence, serving as an

exceptional centerpiece for conversation and admiration. **Key Selling Points & Unrivaled Investment Potential:** Exceptional 19th-Century Craftsmanship: A testament to the highest level of artistry and technical skill in French decorative arts from the 19th century. **Rare and Luxurious Materials:** The magnificent malachite top, combined with high-quality gilded bronze, creates a visually striking and exceptionally luxurious effect, representing the pinnacle of material opulence. **Iconic Empire / Egyptian Revival Design:** The powerful sphinx figures and classical gilt bronze motifs firmly place this table within the highly sought-after Empire style, reflecting a fascination with ancient Egypt inspired by Napoleonic campaigns. **Masterful Bronzework:** The intricate casting and chasing of the gilded bronze, especially evident in the detailed sphinxes and ornate mounts, showcase an extraordinary level of artistic and metallurgical expertise. **Historical and Artistic Significance:** This table is a genuine piece of historical significance, embodying the grandeur and artistic aspirations of the imperial era, making it a valuable addition to any collection. **Prime Investment Potential:** As a unique, high-quality, and historically significant piece crafted from precious materials, this table possesses substantial potential to appreciate in value over time, making it a highly desirable acquisition for discerning collectors.