

PAIR OF 19TH CENTURY FRENCH RENAISSANCE GILT AND PATINATED BRONZE CLODION EWERS

$3,500

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This magnificent pair of antique bronze ewers was crafted in France circa 1870 in the Renaissance Revival style, with elaborate sculptural decoration inspired by the celebrated French artist Claude Michel Clodion. Attributed to Maison Giroux of Paris, the matching ornamental pitchers combine richly patinated bronze bodies with finely chased gilt bronze mounts, creating a striking contrast of color and texture.

Each ewer stands on a circular molded pedestal base embellished with intricate floral and foliate motifs. The rounded body features an exceptional Bacchic procession in high relief, depicting playful putti dancing, celebrating, and carrying garlands in a lively mythological scene. The reddish-brown patinated bronze provides a warm background for the sculptural figures, while elaborate gilt bronze acanthus leaves envelop the lower portion of each vessel.

The slender necks are adorned with finely detailed floral bands and scrolling ornamentation, rising to gracefully curved spouts with decorative beaded edges. Each ewer is fitted with a tall, elaborate handle decorated with twisting vines, foliage, and a ram's head mount, further emphasizing the classical inspiration and sophisticated craftsmanship.

Claude Michel, known as Clodion (1738–1814), was a renowned French sculptor celebrated for his mythological compositions featuring putti, bacchantes, and satyrs. His spirited Rococo and Neoclassical designs inspired numerous decorative bronze works throughout the 19th century.

Maison Giroux, established in Paris in 1799, was a prestigious luxury retailer known for exceptional decorative objects, furniture, and works of art. Although unsigned, these ewers are attributed to the firm based on their elaborate craftsmanship and decorative character.

The antique ewers are in excellent condition commensurate with age and use, retaining their rich two-tone gilt and patinated bronze finish. Weighing approximately 20 pounds each, the substantial pair would make an exceptional addition to a mantel, console, or dining room buffet.

Dimensions: 9"W x 7"D x 20"H each

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