



## CEDRIC DUPONT ANTIQUES

P A L M B E A C H

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An exceptional and very high quality French 19th century Louis XVI st. Porphyry, ormolu and faux painted Porphyry lamp attributed to Sormani. The brûle parfum lamp is raised by an elegant circular mottled wonderfully executed faux painted Porphyry base with a fine wrap around ormolu band and lovely central richly chased foliate finial. Three lightly curved supports with striking hoof feet connected by a concave pierced stretcher and a stunning scrolled serpent at the center lead upwards to exquisite intricately detailed rams heads which are joined by swaging grape vines held by flowing ribbons. The rams heads surround the wonderful Porphyry body with an elegantly curved shape and a lovely top pierced wrap around ormolu band.

This model is related to the famous Duke of Aumont perfume burner, now in the Wallace Collection, London (illustrated in Hughes, *op. cit.*, p. 1341, no. 275, F292). The perfume burner features the same scrolled supports with vine leaf and grape swags joined by a pierced guilloche stretcher centered by a serpent as on the present pair. The Wallace perfume burner, probably after a design by François-Joseph Bélanger was recorded in the inventory after the death of the Duc d'Aumont in 1782. The mounts were securely attributed to Gouthière based on the statement in the d'Aumont sale catalogue, where it appeared under the heading 'tous les Ovrages de son (Gouthière's) execution ...' which were indicated by the letter G. There is also an engraving in the d'Aumont sale catalogue of the perfume burner. The sale of the Duke of Aumont's collection was a great success, with Marie-Antoinette and Louis XVI acquiring some of the most important objects. Ornamentalist and bronziers were inspired too by these masterpieces and disseminated new models where their imagination merged with these models.





