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An elegant French 19th century Neo-Classical st. patinated bronze tazza, signed F. Levillain. The tazza is raised by a fine circular base with a smooth stepped design. The circular bowl above is centered by a richly chased plaque with a philosopher seated listening to a boy playing the flute. Fine grape clusters and leaves are hanging from branches behind them amidst a pan flute and an urn on a pedestal. The Greek words Menalcas Mopsvs are inscribed below. At each side are scrolled handles with two richly chased Bacchus masks. The tazza is stamped at the underside of the base.

Ferdinand Levillain (1837-1905) was a renowned sculptor who exhibited at the Paris Salon from 1861. He was awarded a Silver Medal at the 1889 Paris Exposition Universelle, and was awarded the 'Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur' by the French state in 1892.



