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PALM BEACH

The largest collection of important 17th, 18th and 19th century French, Italian and Continental Antique furniture and accessories in the United States. Luxuriously showcased in a truly authentic European ambiance of a custom designed two-story 20,000 square foot gallery.

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A most impressive and large scale pair of French 18th century Louis XV period cartel clock and barometer signed Le Roy & Cie, Paris. Each ormolu case has an exquisite symmetrical design with scrolled foliate movements amidst richly chased branches and flowers. At the center are the original enameled dials one being the clock and the other being the barometer. Each dial is surrounded by an ormolu lattice design while above are period scenes of a gentleman courting a maiden. The young man stands above the young maiden playing a flute while she sits below reading the sheet music. Two sheep seem to be enjoying themselves listening to the music being played.

Julien Le Roy (1686-1759) was a major 18th-century Parisian clockmaker and watchmaker. Born in Tours in 1686, by the age of 13, he had already made his first clock. In 1699, he moved to Paris further training. He became maitre horloger in 1713 and later juré of his guild. Further appointments followed, including the Directorship of the Société des Arts, but the pinnacle of his achievement was being appointed clockmaker (Horloger Ordinaire du Roi) toking Louis XV in 1739. He carried on his business from Rue du Harlay until his death in 1759. His son Pierre Le Roy carried on the business until the early 1780s. Another son, Julien-David Le Roy (1724-1803), was a Neo-Classical architect and archaeologist, author of the Ruins of the Most Beautiful Monuments of Greece. Examples of his work can be found in many major museums including the Louvre, Paris, and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.





