



## CEDRIC DUPONT ANTIQUES

P A L M B E A C H

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 striking and very unique pair of French 19th century Louis XVI st. enameled bronze and ormolu sconces after a model by Pierre Gouthière. Each two arm sconce is centered by a beautiful bottom acorn finial with acanthus leaves below the extremely decorative cobalt blue colored tapered central fut encased with intricately detailed wrap around berried laurel branches and centered by a richly chased mask of a beautiful maiden. The exceptional scrolled rinceaux shaped arms display most decorative spiral fluted designs with superb finely detailed love birds perched at the center holding blooming floral swaging garlands in their beaks and leading to lovely reeded bobeches and beaded candle cups. At the center are fine curved fluted elements with stunning intricately detailed rams heads all below the striking top acorn finial in a superb satin and burnished finish. The original model is still currently on display at The Palace of Fontainebleau.

\*Shade shown for display purposes only, sold separately.

Pierre Gouthière (1732-1814) - born Bar-sur-Aube, was known as the best metal worker and gilder of his time and was unsurpassed by any of his rivals. He was the student of François Ceriset and took over his workshop in 1758. Under the protection of the duke d'Aumont, he produced works for King Louis XVI and Princess Marie Antoinette becoming the sole gilder for the "Menus-Plaisirs du Roi" as well as producing work for the duchess of Mazarin and Madame du Barry. He was the inventor of the matte gilding which became known as the beautiful satin and burnished finish noticed on high quality pieces and also trained the acclaimed master bronzier Pierre-Philippe Thomire in his studio. Unfortunately most of his work was lost or destroyed but some of his finest and most representative creations can still be admired in the Wallace Collection.





